Call Our Crimes a Work Of Art
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Call Our Crimes a Work Of Art

by GoringWriting

Summary

Class 1A has one final assignment before the end of the year exams begin. A Civil War between Class 1A. With Kirishima leading the Heroes and Izuku leading the villains. But this Civil War turns out to be a bit more realistic for the hero team than they thought. Aspects of running a hero agency none of them ever thought of. All while sweet Midoriya lay in wait within the city. It doesn't matter. Izuku is sweet and he isn't cut out to be a villain.

Right?

Inspired by Hero Class Civil Warfare by RogueDruid (Icarius51) here https://archiveofourown.org/works/14446512?view_full_work=true

Notes

See the end of the work for notes

- Inspired by Hero Class Civil Warfare by RogueDruid (Icarius51)

Chapter 1

Shouta isn't sure what he was expecting when he walked into the staff room for a sudden meeting set by Nedzu, but it certainly wasn't this.

"I'm sorry you want to revive the Civil War assignment?" Shouta asks as he sits down between Nemuri and Hizashi who look equally unhappy about the idea.

"I know the three of you have your own reasons for disliking the Civil War assignment. But with villains like Stain, All For One, and Shigaraki I think it is important for the students to understand all of the aspects of heroics this assignment teaches," Nedzu says. Shouta wants to say no. He wants to say that he won't make his students take part in this assignment. It had been one of the few things to get to Shirakumo.

"Let's say you understand that reasoning. How do we keep the kids on track? How do we keep this from breaking them?" Hizashi says.

"We let them recruit two teachers."

"You want to give them two pro heroes. The hero team is immediately going to go to Ectoplasm and from there it's over," Nemuri says.

"Certain teachers will be sitting out. Ectoplasm, Snipe, All Might, myself and any other teacher who wishes to. You also have the ability to turn your recruitment into a lesson, have them meet a certain condition or have them convince you their side is right or the other side is wrong. Have fun with it. The teachers will have to follow the orders of the student leader and anyone they put in charge in their absence."

"What about helping them meet the requirements?" Nemuri asks.

"The students must make a mistake and realize the mistake with applicable consequences. Much like when your year did it, Kayama," Nedzu says.

"So we're all gonna be the backup band for the kids?" Zashi says.

"Exactly. You'll be there to provide experience and advice when asked and also fill out the ranks of the students." Nedzu says.

"And to make sure none of them take their roles too close to heart.

Specifically the villain team," Nedzu says.

"Okay and what about some of the objectives? Those were a lot from what I can remember," Hizashi says. Shouta sighs, they had been. Hizashi had been on the hero team but Shouta had told him what some of those objectives had been.

"I have kept more of the more mundane ones. I added a few more that required a bit more creativity. I did take out a few of the old objectives to make room for those but most of them are still there but optional due to the more achievable ones."

"I will be having weekly therapy sessions with each student on the teams to make sure they are handling things in a healthy way," Hounddog says.

"If a teacher feels a student might need to be removed from the assignment for any reason they must confer with the other teacher on their team if there is one, or with the main booth if there is agreement or a majority then that student will be removed with no penalty to them."

"With all that settled I supposed it is time to decide the leaders of the two teams," Nedzu says.

"Who should we decide on first?" Snipe asks.

"I believe I already have my choice. All Might does as well." Nedzu says.

"You want Midoriya to be the leader of the heroes?" Nemuri asks.

"Not quite. While I believe Young Midoriya would excel in leading a hero team, I believe that playing the head of the villains would allow him to use and nurture his less used skills that I do not have the knowledge to encourage properly." All Might, who has been quiet up till now, says.

"You want that small broccoli child to play the villain?" Nemuri asks.

"Young Midoriya might be kind and have the heart of a hero, but he is also calculating and he can analyze a situation faster than anyone I have met aside from…from Sir Nighteye. If the idea of the two of them together hadn't filled me with a deep sense of fear I would have introduced them before work study to gain help training him. I think the two of them would have done amazing things, terrifying but

amazing things.” All Might says and you can hear the mourning in his voice.

No hero should outlive their sidekick. Doesn’t matter how old they both are.

“But he’s so nice,” Nemuri says when the respectful silence goes too long.

“I, for one, want to see what the kid can do. See what lies beneath that smile," Hizashi says and Shouta pauses from where he's about to throw his own vote against the problem child. He knows Hizashi as well as he knows himself, as well as he knows Nemuri…as well as he knows…knew…nevermind. But he didn’t always. There was a time long ago when he thought Hizashi was an idiot with a flashy quirk. But once he made friends with the man and realized that the mind of a strategist lived under the surface. His husband is smarter than anyone Shouta knows aside from Nedzu and that was a quirk.

But no one would ever know by just looking at the jovial blonde.

“I’ll give him my vote. Let’s see what the problem child can do. If nothing else it will be funny,” Shouta says with a shrug.

After that a few more teachers give the green light.

“Good. We have our villain team leader. Now for the hero team,” Nedzu says.

“Who would be a good leader for the heroes?” Snipe asks.

“It has to be someone who has shown leadership ability or the general ability to lead.”

“I hate to be the one to recommend it but Bakugou?” Thirteen says hesitantly.

“No. Anything with them on opposite sides is going to be a mess,” Shouta says.

“As much change as I have seen in Young Bakugou I do not believe that he is ready for a position in leadership. He is far too hot headed and brash to be a leader for now. Especially when he is still going against Young Midoriya,” All Might says.

“Okay. What about Asui? She might benefit from the opportunity to

show her leadership skills."

"She prefers Tsu," Hizashi and Shouta say at the same time.

"And the two of you try to pretend you aren't married," Nemuri teases them. Snipe huffs. Shouta grins. He had the man convinced the two of them were mortal enemies when he had started here. Until the marksman had caught the two of them celebrating their anniversary. Now Nemuri never lets the man forget it.

"I don't know. I am sure young As…Tsu would be an excellent leader. I fear getting the other students to follow her will prove difficult. Especially young Bakugou."

"So what you are saying is that it can't be anyone from Midoriya's group of close friends."

"Unfortunately not. There would be a lack of trust."

"What about Kirishima? He has shown an excellent ability to gather people together and leadership and delegation when it matters."

"It might also be the only leader Young Bakugou would accept aside from himself."

"Yeah but Kirishima is a bit blind when it comes to Bakugou."

"This might flip the dynamic enough to help both of them." Snipe points out.

"Plus I can see him not taking anything Midoriya might do during this exercise personally and that's something they'll both need." Ectoplasm says.

"What about participants who are injured but not enough to be dead?" Recovery girl says using air quotes.

"Hero wide will have to call you and arrange a visit. Villains will make do with whatever they can scrape together." Nedzu says.

"That seems accurate but worrisome."

"Is Class B taking part in this?"

"Yes. However we will give Class 1-A a chance to recruit them. Then they will have the option to join."

“Monoma is going to be insufferable.”

“I know.”

Shouta sighs as more and more of the intricacies get discussed.

He doesn’t know how he feels about all this after all this time. But if it’ll help prepare the kids for the real world then he will do it.

Anything to prevent another hero student dying.

Chapter 2

Izuku isn't sure why they are having an assembly instead of heroics. Both Mr. Aizawa and All Might have been dodgy about the purpose of the assembly and it has only served to make Izuku anxious. Why won't they tell anyone about what to expect?

So here he is, in his seat. Waiting for the assembly to start. The only class here is his so that spikes his anxiety up even higher. Why only their class? Why only them? Is it about villain attacks?

"We're just waiting for Nedzu. Quiet down problem children." Aizawa says and suddenly his scarf is moving and the Principal himself is poking his head out.

"Hello students, am I a bear? A mouse? Who knows. I'm the Principal." he says and Izuku has to bite his tongue to make sure he doesn't shout Stoat in answer.

"Now I am sure Aizawa has been vague and cryptic about this assembly. And that All Might has been awkward. It is now time to put your minds to rest." Nedzu says.

"We will be holding a Civil War."

A murmur goes through the class.

A civil war? Just between Class 1-A? Or…

"All students involved will have their performance counted as their final exam grade. With the option to take the original one if they are not happy with their grades," Nedzu says.

All Students involved…hmmm.

"You and the students you recruit will be on one of two teams. Heroes and Villains."

"Students have the choice of what team they will be on. Aside from the leaders of the teams who will be randomly selected. Class B will be participating in an odd way. The first three days you will have to actively recruit them to your team. During the last two days of the prep period they will then be allowed to volunteer themselves for a team and you will have to take them."

“Once the teams from class 1-A have been made, there will be a week of preparatory time in which classes will be canceled that you can use in order to prepare for the war. In addition to your fellow students you will also have the ability to recruit up to two teachers from the faculty from a set list. Which will be given to the leaders in their rule binders.”

Fellow students.

“There will of course be more rules found in the rule binders, but for now that should cover it. Are there any questions before we announce our team leaders?” Nedzu asks.

“Principal Nedzu Sir, why not have a simple battle? Why have students labeled villains or heroes?” Iida asks.

“Because any students and teachers not recruited into teams will also be playing roles in this. It is not a battle simulation alone. To tell you anything more would render one of the simulations moot.” Nedzu says. And when no one else raises their hands Nedzu claps his.

“Terrific. Now, we put each of your class seats in this bag and I will pull out our Hero Leader.” Nedzu says, and reaches in.

Izuku is pretty sure this is rigged. The bottom of the bag isn’t even moving. Just one of the sides.

And if it’s rigged he’s pretty sure he knows why.

It definitely explains why All Might has been avoiding him.

There’s only one position in this game that logically makes sense for him to be put in. He’s already shown his heroic leadership qualities in some less than legal situations. That some people shouldn’t know about but probably do because fuck secrecy he guesses.

He watches a tag with the number 8 is pulled out.

Kirishima huh?

“Alright, I’m going to be the manliest leader,” Kirishima says.

“And now for the leader of the villains,” Nedzu says cheerfully.

Izuku sighs as the bag only moves on the side opposite the one that moved last time.

Yep. He knew it, rigged.

He doesn't even try to be shocked by the 18 on the tag. He saw this coming.

He doesn't even bother to say anything.

"Now you will all come up here and one by one place your tags anonymously in either the hero team's bowl or the villain team's bowl behind this curtain. The team leaders will remain off stage."

One by one the other students head up the stairs and onto the stage and then back down after putting their names in their team bowl.

Izuku sighs.

He already knows how this is going to turn out. No one is going to join the villain team. That's obvious. So he can count out most of the class that he's not close to. Kacchan would die before becoming a villain or following Izuku, and obviously Mina, Kaminari, and Sero are going to join Kirishima.

He knows Iida is going to join the hero team. That much is as obvious as the fact Izuku's hair is green.

He thinks maybe Uraraka would join him, but the guilt on her face is enough to tell him that she didn't.

Todoroki is hard to read but he's pretty sure his friend would pick heroes. It depends on which side he thinks would piss Endeavor off more.

Tsu is another person that he doesn't know what they would do. But she does want to go into rescue work so she'd likely pick heroes.

And the rest of the class aren't close enough to him or Kirishima to let that sway them so it's up to only the hero v villains idea and he already knows how that will sort out.

"Okay everyone! It looks like the teams are set. It seems that our hero team will have a total of seventeen students with Kirishima and our villain team will have three members with Midoriya," Nedzu says.

Three huh? Who…

Todoroki has moved to stand beside him.

“You have shown yourself to be a very competent leader and a good friend. If I am going to follow anyone into a civil war it would be you.” Todoroki says softly.

So that’s one. Who was the second…

“When I passed the first round of the licensing exam, I did it by imagining what you would do in my situation. I have always been too afraid to push and explore my quirk. But I know you always have ideas and plans. I hope together we can find a way for me to improve and to use my quirk to its full capabilities,” a voice says behind him.

MOMO teamed up with him?

Wow.

“Thank you both. I won’t let you down.” Izuku says.

“Even if we lose, we still trust in you to make it a hard one victory for them.” Momo says.

“Go pick up your rule book. We will wait here to see what needs to be done,” Todoroki says.

Izuku goes up and grabs the villain's rule book.

“Midorya, once you have had a chance to read the rules please feel free to ask any questions you might have.” Nedzu says.

“I do have one,” Izuku lowers his voice, “you were careful to never say hero students. Am I reading that correctly?”

“Yes.” Nedzu says and Izuku grins.

“Thank you Principal Nedzu. I hope I am able to live up to the beliefs that led to my selection,” he says and rushes back to his team.

“I have a plan. There’s at least three people I want to recruit. But obviously we try for as many as we can get.”

“I will talk with the reps of class B. Even if they don’t want to join the villains they might know people who do,” Momo says.

“Do you know what teachers you want to recruit to our team?” Todoroki asks.

“I do. I even have a backup in case I can’t get one.”

“Okay. Where are we off to first?” Momo asks.

“We are about to meet who is soon to be one of hopefully two of your new best friends for prep week,” Izuku says and pulls them out the door.

Chapter 3

Once he's sure that no one else is following them, he heads up to the support labs.

Well a specific one.

As they arrive they hear an explosion and Momo jumps but Todoroki doesn't as Izuku opens the door.

"Hey Ten Million! What are you up to?" Mei asks from where she's bent over a table.

Covered in soot.

"Hi Mei, you remember Todoroki and this is our Class President Yaoyorozu," Izuku says.

"Please call me Momo, that goes for everyone here. I feel as though we will be working closely together."

"Everyone can call me Mei."

"Izuku."

"Shouto."

"Great. So…why are you guys here?" Mei asks.

"So Class 1A is doing a Civil War and we're allowed to recruit some students from other classes…or well we can if we were smart enough to read between the rules."

"Okay…But why do you want me on the Hero team?"

"We're not the Hero Team."

Mei seems to pause from where she's bending down to pick up whatever it is that must have exploded.

"Oh…and who is leading the villain team?"

"I am."

"And you want me to make support gear why?"

“Because of all of the hero course students you know I know how important Support Gear is. You know that with my strategy and ideas and your talent and genius we can make things that people will talk about.”

“And because I’m your friend. Of course I am going to help you. The advertising and stuff is just extra. Besides I can trust you to actually use them,” she says.

“Oh…”

“Okay Ten Million so are we a team of four or…”

“We get two teachers if we can recruit them and I have my eyes on two more people at least.”

“I’ll put out feelers for more support course students who might want to help out,” she says.

“Thanks Mei.”

“Of course Ten Million. I’ll find PowerLoader and tell him about this so he can excuse me from class. You go get out our other two members and we can talk strategy.” she says.

“Okay. Momo, is there anyone you want to speak with?”

“I can think of a few people.”

“Okay. You talk to them and I will try to talk to my two and then I will have them meet back here in an hour while I go to recruit the teachers I want.” Izuku says running off. He knows that it’s almost lunch so he should be okay to borrow them.

He knocks on the classroom door and then opens the door.

“Hey Kiddo, what are you up to?” Mic asks from the front of the General Studies class.

“I was wondering if I could talk to Shinsou?” Izuku squeaks out.

“Sure. Shinsou,” Mic motions the boy and he follows Izuku into the hall.

“What’s going on? Honestly thought the hero course forgot me when I lost the Sports Festival,” Shinsou says.

“Bitch I eat lunch with you on Fridays!”

Shinsou smirks, “I know Broccoli boy. Just messing with you. So, what do you want?”

“I have an idea that might help you work your way into the Hero Course. But you might hate it and me for suggesting it and I don’t want you to hate me,” Izuku rushes out.

“Okay that was a lot of words. Let’s try that again. What idea?”

“Class 1A is having a Civil War. Heroes v. Villains. Nedzu worded the rules so that we could have students not in the hero course on our teams. But I think I am the only one who realized it.”

“Okay…So you want me on the Hero team?”

“And this is the part where you hate me.”

“They put you in charge of the villain team didn’t they.”

“Yes.”

He can hear Shinsou sucking in deep breaths. He knows he’s asking a lot of his friend. He’s in this school to be a hero to prove that he’s not a villain and here he is asking him to join a team labeled villains.

“Recruit me. Tell me why I should join your team.” Shinsou says.

“You’re my friend. I trust you to put your all into this no matter what team you are on. I know that it’ll help you build your case to transfer classes if you can do well and even if we don’t win you know I will make it a fight. Plus it’ll be easier to notice your contributions on a smaller team. I can think of unique ways to use your quirk to enable you to show off. I thought of asking you as soon as I figured out the gap in the rules and…do you think anyone else is smart enough to figure that gap out and even if they do do you think they are going to go to Gen Ed.”

Shinsou is blushing by the end of his rant and Izuku looks up at him hopefully.

“Damn, I feel bad for whoever else you recruit if this is the speech you give to each one. I’m in,” Shinsou says and Izuku hugs him.

“Great! Just tell Mic you are going to be participating in the Civil War and you should be excused from class. If not, I will schedule our group

prep time after school." Izuku says, moving to head off.

"Where are you going?"

"I have one more student I want to recruit before the day is over." Izuku says and makes it to 1B just as the class is letting out. He knows the one he's looking for is always the last to leave. So it's easy to sneak in behind Pony and Vlad King nods as he leaves.

The blonde he's looking for is the only one in here now. He's looking at one of his textbooks.

When he realizes that he's no longer alone he looks up.

"Why is someone from 1A here?" Monoma says glaring at him.

This was the one he was worried about. He has the lowest chance with Monoma but he has to try.

"Do you want to show up a majority of class 1A?" Izuku asks.

"Duh. I mean I already know 1B is better so yeah I want them to see it too."

"Great because Class 1A is having a villains v Heroes fight and we are allowed to recruit from class 1B and you are the first one I thought of."

"And why should I side with your team?"

"Because there's only three 1A students on it."

Monoma doesn't seem to know what to say to that.

"Your own class couldn't bother to join with you?"

"I think they got a little too hung up on the villains part."

Monoma seems to consider it.

"How many people on your team?

"So far? Five including me."

"And you are confident you can show up the rest of your class?"

"I can't make it a promise. But I do know a lot of my high probability

plans require you."

Izuku feels bad manipulating Monoma like this.

It's not truly a lie though. A lot of his plans do involve him. But he can easily make a new plan without him.

But Monoma likes to feel important.

"You get two teachers right?"

"Right."

"I want to see how smart you are. Write down the two teachers you're gonna try to recruit and I'll write down the ones I think you'll pick of you're smart. If one matches I'll know you have a head on your shoulders that could possibly wing this. You don't have to show me if you say they don't match."

That seems fair. Ensures the anonymity of his recruits.

Izuku nods and scribbles them down.

When they flip Izuku isn't surprised to see that they did in fact match.

"Well then? What are you waiting for? Add me to the team list," Monoma says.

Izuku grins.

Now for his last two people on his list.

Chapter 4

Shouta isn't sure what he was expecting when he found the note on his desk asking him to come to the support course classroom block.

Maybe Nedzu planning some stupid experiment that would end up making Shouta's left a hundred times more difficult.

Or perhaps Hizashi wanting to sneak lunch together in private.

Hell he's even expecting someone to attempt to murder him.

He is not expecting his problem child to be standing in front of him.

"Thank you for agreeing to meet me Mr. Aizawa!" Izuku is earnest in his gratitude. But there is an edge of determination in his stance.

The boy wants something. And he is gonna get it or die trying.

"Midoriya. Care to explain the cloak and dagger meeting?"

"I didn't want anyone to see me trying to recruit you."

Shouta relaxes.

He assumed as much but wasn't sure.

His problem child is always unexpected.

"I wasn't planning on participating…"

"...I know about your friend who was the villain captain in your year."

Shouta stiffens.

"Midoriya…"

"I won't tell anyone. Besides I would be incriminating myself if I did for hacking. But I know he was determined to win as a villain and that you wanted to help him. He couldn't do it in his year but I think I can win. But I need certain people. You're an underground hero. You can teach us stealth. You can teach us how to deal with victims of crimes. You can teach us a lot about things that aren't in the curriculum for first years but that are perfect for my plan."

Fuck. It's just like Oboro all over again.

His friend had had the same earnest determination in his eyes.

But there's something behind it here. Where as Oboro had wanted to win. Midoriya is going to win.

Shouta sighs.

"Fine."

The brilliant smile on the boys face makes Shouta's heart ache for Oboro.

"Thank you so much Mr. Aizawa!" The boy pulls off a piece of note paper.

"Please be here promptly after classes." He says.

Shouta blinks. He hadn't expected training to start so soon.

Maybe Midoriya knows what he's going after all.

He gives a quick nod and heads to his office for lunch.

Maybe he can win this for Oboro.

Listen Hizashi Yamada knows English isn't the most exciting language in the universe. But he's trying his best.

He always tries to make his lessons interesting and interactive for his students. And he likes to thing he's fair about not forcing students to participate.

But he'd like it if they at least tried to make him think they're paying attention.

What's worse is, it's Shinsou that's not paying attention. The boy normally hangs off his teachers every word and takes notes like a top student.

Which makes sense considering he is one of the top students.

Hizashi hopes the sudden lack of attention after Midoriya's visit doesn't mean that the boy has given up on his goal of making it into the Hero Course. Not with all his hard work in class and with Shouta.

But here is his star student openly staring at his phone.

He's not doing it all the time. But a majority of the time is bad enough.

Maybe he should wait till Friday. If the boy still shows signs of attention issues he'll sit down with him. Get to the bottom of the problem hopefully.

Eventually the bell rings for the start of the last class of the day and a Hizashi starts to clean the board when he sees Shinsou approaching.

He pretends not to notice as the boy slips a note onto his desk.

Odd.

Hizashi waits till he's in the hall to look at his note.

'Please come to the janitorial room.'

Well it's definitely not from Shou. His husband would have texted him. Although it's been so long since they could spend time together he almost wishes it was from him.

He shakes those thoughts from his head. They've just both been a little busy that's all. Soon they'll have a break from school and that should free up some time for them to spend together.

He hopes.

He's not exactly sure who he expected but if definitely wasn't Izuku Midoriya.

"Good afternoon Mr. Mic!" He says excitedly.

"Hey kid."

"Sorry if Shinsou was distracted in class today. I needed him to write the note and give it to you.

Oh that explains it.

Good it's just a one off.

"Alright. You for me here what can I do for you?"

"Join my team for the civil war."

Hizashi could almost snort. Of course the kid wants his Quir…

"You were top of your class in your three years as a student. You are one of the few pros who has consistently remained at your place in the rankings. You speak multiple languages, including JSL which would allow us to communicate plans over distance or in front of the enemy. You work three jobs. You get along with at least two of my teammates already and you have the highest rating in teamwork amongst any of the faculty, and while your quirk isn't as versatile it could work in a few of my back up plans."

"Whoa kid breathe," Hizashi says, because the kid just said all that with one breath.

Hizashi is a little surprised. Normally he's requested for missions because of his quirk but here the kid was adding his quirk like an afterthought.

"Alright and what's in this for me?" Oboro did always say he was a good negotiator.

"A chance to show off more than just your quirk. A chance to get away from classes for a few days. And Mr. Aizawa will be there and I could put your rooms together and as far from the rest of the team as possible."

Hizashi's honestly not surprised the kid knows about him and Shou.

"Kiddo as much as I want to join up. Eraserhead isn't…"

"Mr. Aizawa already said yes."

Honestly that surprises him more than anything.

He's kinda impressed.

"Alright kiddo. I'll rock with you."

You would think he just made the boy's whole day with how much he lights up.

"Thank you so much Mr. Mic!" He says and pulls out a piece of paper.

"Meet here right after classes."

"Will do kid." Hizashi says and heads in the direction of his office.

He's kinda impressed with the kid.

Chapter 5

Izuku heads to the cafeteria next. He's pretty sure that's where Kirishima will be right now. Recruiting the rest of the class or just enjoying lunch.

He doesn't care so much as to the what Kirishima is doing. What's important is that he's there and he sees Izuku there.

He knows one thing. A threat that you can see doing nothing is less terrifying than one you can see doing something.

So, Izuku let's himself be seen doing "homework" at his table. Being inocuous. Innocent.

Let's himself be seen as doing nothing.

But he is doing something. He's texting Mei a list of things he wants her to work on designs for and he works on making a list of questions he wants to ask Nedzu. He'd read the binder quickly on his way down after talking to Mr. Mic.

Now he has the pages carefully tucked into his school book to give it a more detailed read.

INTRODUCTION

Greetings Midoriya-kun. Here is your official rules binder for the upcoming assignment. Please make sure to keep this safe as it is entirely fair for the

other team to try and remove it from your possession both during prep week and during the actual exam.

The purpose of this exam is to bring together all you have learned this year in a comprehensive and realistic simulation. A true example of a hero and villain battle.

Good to know. He'll have to make a decoy binder. Kirishima wouldn't think to steal his but one of his teammates might suggest it and he doesn't want to be caught off guard because he overestimated Kirishima's morals.

He however will steal the hero binder today and replace it by dinner.

He texts Momo his new assignment for her.

His team has their missions. Monoma will keep an ear to the ground in 1B for possible recruits, with his own notes on each one. Then give the list to Izuku, who would curate it before passing it on to Momo who would be better at the recruitment part.

Izuku had only gotten the people he has because he knew he needed them and he knew how to get a yes. But he doesn't know 1B well and they don't know him. But they do know Monoma and Momo.

The realistic simulation has him thinking. How realistic are they talking?

He returns to his reading.

PARTICIPANTS

Normally this exam is given to third years only. But I felt that this year it would be beneficial to perform it with the first years.

Izuku writes down a notation. He'd already caught the fact that this was open to all departments already but he'd not thought about recruiting 2nd or 3rd years. So that will be his first question for the rat.

There are three designations. Hero. Villain, and Civilian. There are two roles on the Hero side and those are the leader and their recruits. The same can be said for the villain team. There are also two types of civilians. L level civilians and R level civilians.

Two types of civilians? Why would they do that?

The main difference between the two is that with R level civilians you are allowed to do anything to them. The L level cannot be physically nor psychologically harmed.

Psychologically harmed…

Oh.

Izuku smiles.

He thinks he has the answer to one question already.

SURVIVAL

Each day of the exam constitutes one month in real life. Aside from "prison" sentences in which case one hour constitutes a year.

You will be given one hour with Lunch Rush to secure provisions the day before the exam. Any other needs must be acquired during the exam. Legality of methods is of course up to you!

Should the hero team need medical assistance they will call in a hero with a recovery quirk. Villains will be on their own.

That either means they will call on recovery girl or someone who works with her.

Hmmm.

He'll ask Mr. Aizawa and Mr. Mic if they know anyone with a healing quirk. If not he has a plan to…help themselves to one.

He also makes a point to schedule first aid training for all his team with Recovery Girl.

And perhaps some gun training.

Mr. Aizawa and Mic can help them handle transportation. Most of them have learners permits anyway.

God he's going to have to start making a list of things to take care of too.

On top of throwing some false leads out there.

All before meeting with his team after class.

Fuck.

He sighs and goes back to reading.

What would constitute lethal injuries or illnesses will cause a student to be removed by any faculty. Most likely ones on their team or observing should a team fail to recruit faculty.

That won't be a problem he already has two and he knows Mr. Aizawa would likely lean towards over caution unless they have a healing quirk on their side and even then would likely be over cautious with them.

He'll have to train that out of the man before the match.

They are going to be horribly out numbered. They'll have to take risks.

LOCATION

The assignment will be held in gym zeta. And will constitute a true replica of a modern city.

The Hero Team will be given an Agency within the city.

The Villain team can arrange a date to select a base.

How exact a replica? Is it based on a real city? If so he can look up the maps for that one. Maybe someone on his team knows? If not perhaps he could find out from someone else.

Oh…he just got a fun idea. One he'll have to drop in conversation with Nedzu. He knows he can't manipulate a master manipulator but his idea might be creative enough that Nedzu will implement it either way.

After all he promises a realistic city.

VILLAIN LOSS CONDITIONS

The villain team will be considered to have lost should one or more of the following occur.

1. *All villain team members are captured or killed.*
2. *All villain team members are arrested and in prisoned.*
3. *The leader is killed or captured for more than 12 hours or is sentenced to a prison sentence that is more than the remaining hours left to the assignment.*
4. *Condition 3 is mitigated should the leader appoint a competent second in command, however points will be docked if the assignment ends with the leader dead/imprisoned/captured. The second in*

command cannot be a faculty member (please see number 5 in role of faculty).

5. *Villain team fails to meet their win conditions.*
6. *Villain team escapes the city more than 10 minutes before the end of the assignment.*

VILLAIN WIN CONDITIONS

The villain team will be considered to have won should one or more of the following occur.

1. *Villain team amasses a total of 50 objective points by the end of the assignment (see: villainous objectives).*
2. *The entire hero team have been removed from play.*
3. *The villain team amasses 30 objective points and successfully escapes the city without capture ten minutes or less before the end of the assignment.*

VILLAINOUS OBJECTIVES

There are three types of objectives for the villain team. Major Objectives, Minor Objectives, and Miscellaneous Objectives. Each objective has a pre assigned number of points.

Major Objectives

1. *Commit a murder (5 points).*
2. *Plant a bomb (5 points).*
3. *Rob a bank (3 points).*
4. *Kill a public official (4 points).*
5. *Bribe a public official (5 points).*
6. *Steal classified government documents (10 points).*
7. *Sell an illegal fire arm (5 points).*

8. *Commit a murder for hire (10 points) (does not satisfy any other objective).*
9. *Commit a biological agent attack (10 points).*

Minor Objectives

1. *Pickpocket someone (1 point).*
2. *Take a civilian hostage (1 point).*
3. *Poison someone (1 point).*
4. *Commit Arson (1 point).*
5. *Vandalize a government building (1 point).*
6. *Perform a crime for hire (1 point) (this crime cannot be used to satisfy and other objective).*
7. *Hack a company server (3 points).*
8. *Kidnap a civilian (1 point).*
9. *Hold a building hostage (1 point).*

Miscellaneous Objectives

1. *Kill the head of the hero team (30 points).*
2. *Kill the heroes second in command (20 points) (please note that completion of number 1 is a prerequisite for this one).*
3. *Kill a hero (10 points) (for these purposes performance of this one does not satisfy number 1 in Major Objectives).*
4. *Bribe a hero (10 points).*
5. *End a Hero's career (12 points).*
6. *Cause a scandal (15 points).*
7. *Break into hero HQ (20 points).*
8. *Amass 5 favors (15 points).*
9. *Recruit a spy (10 points).*
10. *Capture a hero (8 points).*
11. *Make a rousing villain speech (10 points).*
12. *Purchase information (5 points).*
13. *Destroy Hero HQ (10 points).*

Note: Extra points may be awarded should the observers feel an act is

particularly genius or inventive.

The objectives can be completed by any member of the team. Delegation of tasks is encouraged.

A loss in the assignment does not automatically mean a failing grade. Objective points are calculated into students final grades and I encourage you to achieve as many as you can.

Izuku makes notes next to everything. Theories of certain acts and what some of the tasks could mean. What some of his strategies should be.

How to beat avoid loss.

He feels kind of bad…it's going to be horrible for the hero team. A lot of these things are going to be easy for him to get as they were already part of his plans.

It almost feels unfair…

No. It's life. Plain and simple. Just what this is supposed to simulate.

ROLE OF FACULTY

While this is primarily an exercise for students faculty are an invaluable asset for victory. However, there are rules they must follow.

1. *They cannot give any information acauired by nature of being teachers. However should you delegate them to investigating something that is allowed.*
2. *Faculty may not help in the preparation for the assignment however that does extend to their nature as instructors.*
3. *Okay…gun training is a go. So might some of his other plans. They can't help by giving them things outside of knowledge of seems.*
4. *They may not interfere with the leadership of the teams unless they fear for the health or safety of a student.*
5. *It is completely acceptable for the leader or someone with authority granted to them by the leader to delegate jobs or missions to faculty.*
6. *While this means they are considered full members of the team, they are not allowed to be selected as a second in command.*
7. *While a teacher can be delegated to recruitment they cannot use their status to recruit students. This includes offering extra credit, extensions, a homework pass or any such thing and they may not leverage a student's grade for recruitment.*
8. *Several staff members (myself, All Might, Snipe, and Ectoplasm) have requested not to be recruited. You may still try of course but it would be a waste of time.*
9. *Recovery Girl, due to the scarcity of healing heroes is also not able to be recruited to add to the realism.*

Izuku nods. This is what he expected. Actually it's a bit looser than he considered it would be.

Hmm.

PREPARATION

Students will be granted a period of one week to prepare for this assignment. Five of those days will be over a school week. (In school prep time).

You are encouraged to use the UA facilities available to you.

The first three days of in school prep time will be open recruitment. The last two will be for voluntary enrollment. After which the teams will be set.

Recruitment

Any method for recruitment, that have not already been banned are allowed.

A participant can only be registered for one team.

Conduct Within the Preparation Period

While you are not allowed to attack current members of a team or possible members outside of the simulation, other methods may be employed to prevent recruitment.

Interference with team preparation is encouraged during this time so long as no physical harm is employed.

Members of each team must have at least one meeting with Hound Dog before the simulation and at least one after. Failure to comply will cause you to be removed from the assignment before it starts or should the failure occur after the assignment personal detention shall be enforced.

Please note, if a student already has a therapist they would prefer to meet with instead of Hound Dog, they shall give the therapist's information to Hound Dog so the preferred therapist can better prepare you as Hound Dog would.

CLOSING REMARKS

Am I a dog? A bear? What matters is I am the Principal and I am encouraging you to do your best on this assignment. I am sure you will not disappoint.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Izuku feels so tired after reading through the binder.

This was a lot of information. Ugh.

His head is spinning with ideas, questions and plans.

He sighs and flips to a clean page to order his thoughts.

Questions for Nedzu

1. What counts as a biological attack?
2. Is it just first years?
3. How real are we talking?
4. What sort of weapons can they use?
5. Arrests and prison?

Prep Stuff

1. Gun lessons from Snipe.
2. Villain speech? (Ask All Might).
3. Make up lessons from Midnight.
4. Public speaking lessons from same.
5. First Aid lessons.
6. Look for healing quirks.
7. List of skills and hobbies and talents of team.
8. Training schedule.
9. Possible recruits.
10. Talk to Mei.

Strategy

1. 2nd in command?
2. Replace hero binder.
3. Drop mention of my idea.
4. Be caught trying to recruit teachers.
5. Talk to LR and Power Loader
6. Fake villain binder.
7. Group chat.

Satisfied with his lists he heads to class when the bell rings.

Chapter 6

Shouta won't admit it but he's actually a little scared when he sees his team leader zoom out of the classroom at the end of the day.

He has somehow convinced Hizashi to add him to the group chat used to plan their stuff.

Since Hizashi gives his number in the syllabus and Shouta would rather die than do that the blonde was the only one Midoriya could ask.

But anyway the green haired kid had created a group chat with code names and everything and had told them to meet after school in an hour in one of the support labs. Which honestly made Shouta more worried than he had been.

There's only one person Midoriya would go there for.

Another problem child who he thought he was safe from.

At least now he has a pretty good idea who artificer is in the chat.

Hizashi's was obviously. No one else would be a bard…well he would have thought Shinsou but apparently his protege is a paladin? He's not gonna ask.

He hasn't guessed who Conguration is nor Genasi. He also is a little confused about Mimic is but he's.

He's also kinda surprised he ended up with Monk. He'd have to ask Midoriya…or Rogue about it later.

Who knew kids still played D&D?

Oboro had loved it.

He shakes off the melancholy edging into his head when he sees Kirishima and Mina approaching him.

He can see the logic. Kirishima frankly is one of the few students who hasn't managed to completely annoy him while Mina is excellent at gathering information, usually gossip, and thus knowing the best thing to offer or convince.

Midoriya had already given him and Hizashi orders not to let anyone know they had been recruited and to make it seem like they weren't available to be.

A smart decision. As long as they think they can't be recruited then they won't make contingency plans for teachers they know they won't run into and if they don't think Midoriya has recruited teachers get they'll underestimate him.

That had been one of Oboro's failings. Everyone knew who he had recruited immediately. He wasn't exactly subtle and even aliens would know Shouta would go with him.

"Mr. Aizawa…we were hoping we might ask you something?"

Shouta turns his attention back to his students.

When they see they have his attention Kirishima continues, "we were hoping you would join the hero team?"

His pitch leaves a bit to be desired. Unfortunately he will not be helping the students on the opposite team.

"Yeah! We have a perfect plan. You and Mr. Cementoss together will be an excellent team up. He can block them in with you up high reason their quirks and Bakugou can knock the villain team out!" Mina says.

Shouta very much wants to sigh.

That is one of their weaknesses. They don't know how to keep information to themselves.

He loses the battle and finally sighs.

"As sound of a plan that might be, I unfortunately have a mission that night. So I will be unable to join you."

He's careful to be honest. He does have a mission that first night. Midoriya gave it to them all already.

"Man that's unmanly…I don't mean you are sir! Just that your inability to join is unmanly."

"I knew what you meant Kirishima. Now I suggest you both get to work. This assignment will not be easy and both of you still haven't submitted your public relations essays."

"Right! We're going to put the finishing touches on them tonight so we can focus on the simulation.

Shouta watches the kids rush out the door and pulls out his phone.

Monk: was approached by strawberry and cherry. Library is the one they're either trying or already have recruited. If they're smart I know who they'll go to after some time to strategize. Rogue get items 3 and 4 from Perfume as soon as possible.

He puts his phone away and makes his way to the teachers lounge.

Rogue: Monk is there anyway you know of that could keep perfume out of the running?

Shouta considers this.

Monk: I might. Let me look into it.

Rogue: I am giving you full authority to implement a plan to take her out.

He pinches the bridge of his nose. Ugh is he really about to do this?

Yes.

Why me?: do you still want her number?

Bane of my existence: yes! Omg there's a super cool art exhibit I think she'd enjoy. Not my thing but I wanna impress her!

Why me?: The one that you were given those tickets to by the mayor for a press opportunity?

Bane of my existence: yeah for opening night!

That's night one of the assignment. Perfect.

Why me?: XXX-XXX-XXXX

Bane of my existence: SWEET. You can tell me why the sudden change of mind on patrol tonight!

Why me: they put us together?

Bane of my existence: I just volunteered

Shouta sighs and turns his phone over. That's enough social interaction for one day.

He'll tell Midoriya in person.

There's only half an hour anyway.

He wonders if all this is a waste of time. There is literally 8 of them. Can eight people really beat what's gonna end up being a larger number of heroes?

Then again the LoV has been doing pretty well with roughly the same number of people.

But they are hardened criminals with extremely strong quirks. There's roughly only three strong quirks on their team with his to even the playing field. Which is fine when you have better odds. But much harder when you're so thoroughly out numbered there's no hope.

He'd learned that the hard way a few months ago.

God what is wrong with him? Quirks are tools. And yes the other team has stronger tools but they are still human and can be beaten.

With strategy and preparedness.

And he's pretty sure Midoriya has that covered.

When it's time he takes an extra long way to the support labs. Looking at the faces.

Todoroki is looking over something with Hizashi…maybe English homework?

Momo and Mei are in a corner discussing plans and guns.

He feels true fear then. Shinsou waves from his napping spot in the corner.

How the hell did Midoriya recruit Monoma from 1B?

He shakes his head dumbly for a moment before taking a seat. Midoriya is facing a whiteboard…wiping…makeup? Off his face.

"Alright let's get started with meeting number one!" Midoriya says.

Shouta suddenly feels like he shouldn't even try to guess what to

expect next anymore.

Chapter 7

Izuku leaves Nedzu's office feeling very good. He had gotten answers to plenty of his questions and he had seen the glimmer of interest in Nedzu's eyes when he had mentioned his idea.

Hopefully it will work.

But the most exciting thing had been the binder labeled civilian identities on Nedzu's desk which confirmed something Izuku had been thinking about.

It's good information to have.

"Oh…hey Midoriya…"

Oh he's just run into Kirishima and Mina.

"Hey guys!" He grins.

"What are you up to?" Mina asks.

"I…I…I was asking Nedzu a question about the assignment. I didn't understand the rules."

"Man you got through the rules already? I haven't even had a chance to get to work on them yet because of that essay we have."

"O…oh right. I submitted mine last night. What luck." He says.

Perfect. Kirishima hasn't looked at the rules yet. Now's the perfect time.

"Lucky. Well we'll see you around Midoriya!" Kirishima says as they head into Cementoss' classroom.

"See you!" Izuku says and rushes to the lockers.

He knows everyone's codes. He only needed to ever see them once.

There it is. He quickly takes the real one and replaced it with the fake he had Hitoshi print for him. Gen Ed has one less class in the day so they get out early.

That done he slips the real hero binder into his binder.

Then walks down the management classes wing.

There's one person he's looking for.

He pokes his head into the Art room.

Midnight is at a table cleaning up.

"Miss Midnight?" He squeaks out and she turns her eyes on him.

"Hello Midoriya," she purrs.

He long since stopped feeling weird. Once you learn that All Might's whole personality is fake it's easier to see the front other heroes put up.

She's playing into her strengths while trying to succeed in a make dominated profession while still trying to maintain her own control.

"I…I…nevermind!" He squeaks.

"Oh come on I won't bite," she teases.

"I…I was wondering if you could help me…learn to talk I…I mean speak…like in public." Izuku says.

She cocks a head to the side.

"Typically dealing with the press is covered next year." She says.

"I…I don't need to talk to the press. M…my mom is getting an award and…and I've been asked to say a quick something." He says.

"Oooooh ladies love a guy who loves his mother. Pull up a seat," she says leaning against her desk.

"Okay. I don't have time today to go through everything but there's a few tips. Write out what you are going to say but just the message you want to get across. Not the whole line. Because you'll get hung up on the wording and lose confidence. And confidence is key. Know you're audience. Speak to them. Don't talk at them. If you need to when practicing and making notes use a code for something. Like to stress something draw an arrow under the word to you draw out the word. Use dots to mark pauses and breaths. And practice." She says.

"Thank you so much Miss Midnight!" He says and rushes out but pauses at the door and makes like he's going to say something but

thinks better if it.

"Was there anything else?" She asks, kindly.

"I…it's dumb…" he says.

"Try me kid."

"Could you show me the basics of applying makeup?" He asks and her face seems to melt. This is her real self.

"Of course. Come here kid."

"Thank you so much!" He says and comes over to her.

They spend a few minutes showing him how to apply various things. It's not quite what he was hoping for but it's enough of the basics that the rest he can find online.

He leaves with a full face of makeup.

His next stop is Recovery Girl.

She's happy that finally a hero wants to learn field medicine and how to prevent injuries and things.

Then his next visit is Snipe.

He asks him about lessons in shooting.

Snipe is immediately suspicious. But Izuku brings up how useful a gun and knowing how to use it would be in USJ and that he needs a backup ranged attack in case he breaks an arm again or a villain does.

He agrees to give him some basic training.

Good. Mr. Aizawa said he would also teach them but that he prefers his capture weapon, and Mei has hers.

And that's his last stop before heading to Mei's lab.

But on his way he texts All Might about having a quick talk after dinner. Receiving confused agreement in response.

It's not till he's there that he realizes that he did all that with a full face of makeup.

Oh well. He got what he wanted done.

Chapter 8

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

Shouta has learned to expect a lot of bullshit from his students. But he's not expecting Midoriya to pull out markers and photos of class 1B.

Where the fuck did he even get those?

"Alright Monoma, give me the intel on class 1B."

"Well you can forget Tetsutetsu. He's so excited about working with Kirishima. Traitor. Anyway, I think Ibara too. She's not a huge fan of 1A and some of their members but being on the villain team in her eyes would be worse."

Izuku nods and moves those pictures to a red square.

When the fuck did he color code?

"Manga is hard. While I think he would prefer to be on the hero team I think you are just charismatic enough to find a way around it. And clever enough to put his quirk to good use."

Monoma then proceeds to detail what he knows of the quirk before Midoriya puts the student in a yellow box.

"Sen would be great to have. His quirk turns him into a drill and not only is that useful for infiltration but if we also get Awase they can work together nicely to make tunnels and hidden places. But if not separating them would work just as well."

Since when has Monoma been this interested in quirks? Does Vlad know?

"Shihai would be good with stealth and escape and if you can get Komori he's a garuntee because he has a crush on her. The problem is if they have to face each other on opposite teams. But Komori has the type of quirk you would have a ton of fun with."

"What about your president?"

"Kendo is nice. Excellent at keeping people in line and a leader. I don't know if you can recruit her…her internship was less than stellar from what I heard…"

"I was paired with her. She and I did not learn combat or heroics. We learned how to do commercials and sell things."

"I'll have that placement removed from future lists." Shouta vows.

"So if I convince her that I can help her make up for that lack maybe I can recruit her…" Midoriya murmurs to himself.

"I'll see what I can do about maybe letting some info slip about you helping with my quirk." Momo says.

"Same. The shock of me complimenting 1A might be enough to get her interested." Monoma says.

Shouta wonders if he was replaced by Toga…

No.

Maybe.

No.

And so it continues. Their leader going through each 1B student. Separating them into a traffic light system.

Then going a step further and separating them by how likely it is for them to be recruitable.

Shouta's impressed.

He's even more impressed when the problem child starts working out a workout schedule for each person here.

Including him and Hizashi.

He's pretty impressed.

He then tells Shouta and Hizashi to keep their recruitment secret.

Apparently he wants the hero team to think he's struggling to find pros to join him.

They're fine with it.

After the team meeting Shouta heads back to his dorm, with Hizashi.

They eat dinner. Prep food for tomorrow's lunch.

They even do some grading.

Shouts hates grading.

He lays awake for a while, Hizashi passed out next to him snoring softly, and pulls out a small piece of paper. Folded and stained with age.

He unfolds it carefully.

He stares at familiar blue hair and a smile that is in all his dreams… and that haunts his nightmares.

He stares at Oboro for a while, before saying softly, "You would have adores Midoriya. He's just like you. Reminds me so much of you."

It's whispered softly. Before he folds the paper again and slides it back into it's spot.

Then he finally settles down to sleep.

Chapter End Notes

Heads up next chapter will be emotional.

Chapter 9

After his team meeting he works out a list of students he wants to talk to tomorrow.

He has to play this right.

If he recruits too many then Kirishima will amp up his preparations for the exam.

But too slow and Kirishima will recruit people first.

Dinner comes and goes and he walks to his and All Might's usual spot.

"Ah Young Midoriya, what is it you want to see me about?" He asks.

"I wanted to apologize."

"Apologize?"

"For being put in charge of the villain team!"

Surely he must have done something bad for him to be put on the team. No one just up and decides that someone would make a good villain leader.

He didn't even get a choice. He was one of two people who had no choice in his team.

"I just don't want you to be disappointed in me…" he says softly.

"Oh Young Midoriya, it was I who suggest you be named the leader of the villain team."

"What?"

"Yes. When Nedzu told me about the assignment I told him you would make an excellent villain leader, my boy."

"B…but all I've ever wanted was to be a hero like you!"

All Might sighs and sits down on the bench and Izuku follows suit.

"My boy…you're not a hero like me," he says softly and Izuku's heart breaks. He feels tears well up in his eyes, "there are no heroes like me. Nor another hero like Eraserhead. Nor Present Mic. Nor Nedzu. Nor

Midnight…Nor even any other heroes like Deku, either." All Might says.

Izuku looks up at him.

"Every hero works in their own way. Solves problems in their own way. No two are ever perfectly alike."

"But…"

"Look at me and Mirai. You couldn't get two more opposite people. But he was the first person to ever come close to beating me. Because where I was strong he was smart. He was analytical. Picking apart opponents like they had no secrets from him. He was my best friend. And I was his."

There's a deep sadness in his voice. Of someone who lost a friend. Not just a partner.

"We were both so different, yet so alike. Even in the way we looked for a successor."

"H…how do you mean?"

"He chose someone who smiles through everything. Who keeps going no matter what. Who cracks jokes. Who can comfort and help people. Who can gain the trust of others easily. He chose someone exactly like me." All Might says.

"A…and you?"

"And I chose someone smart. With the heart of a hero. Who was kind even if awkward. Who was incredibly intelligent and skilled in analysis. Who wouldn't let things go until there was a solution. Who can put together plans with little time but expert level success. I chose someone exactly like him."

"B…but how does that make the two of you alike?"

"We both chose someone exactly like our best friend."

Izuku feels himself tearing up.

All Might sighs.

"You're also incredibly similar to David and Melissa and even Tsuchauchi."

Izuku sniffles.

"It is one of my true regrets that you never got to be truly mentored by Mirai. Because I look at you and I think of him and in my heart I know the two of you could have done truly amazing things together. And you will never have that chance because of my cowardice and his own stubbornness. And as much as I want to say I can nurture your strategy and analysis and planning skills…those are not my own skills. I can't help you home those skills. But…this exercise…you as leader of the villain team, will give you a chance to stretch and hone them. That is why I chose you to be the villain, to give you're skills a chance to grow and stretch," All Might says.

"Thank you All Might…" Izuku sniffles.

"No thank you my boy. I was a foolish man before I met you. So far removed from life and society. A Hero merely going through the motions. That day…the world could have lost a great hero that day because me and that disconnect. And for that and the way I spoke to you and discounted your abilities, I am sorry. I was wrong that day."

Izuku didn't realize how much he needed to hear his mentor say that.

He sniffles and leans away from him and takes a breath, "c…can someone Quirkless be a hero?" He sniffles softly. He's not Quirkless anymore but…he needs to hear this. Hear the new answer.

"My boy anyone can be a hero if they work hard and care about others," All Might says and suddenly Izuku doesn't care about keeping their closeness a secret. He launches himself into his mentor's arms.

Big arms wrap around him tightly.

"It's alright my boy, you've been holding onto his a long time. Let it out." A hand rubs his back gently.

And Izuku cries into the chest of the man who gave him more than he'll ever know.

And he doesn't mean a quirk.

Chapter 10

The next morning Shouta wakes up to find Midoriya sitting at the kitchen counter with Hizashi going over something.

How did the problem child even get in here?

"Good morning Mr. Aizawa! I made coffee and breakfast as an apology for bothering you both so early. But I needed to talk to Mr. Mic about something."

Shouta pours a cup of coffee, damn it's good.

"What?"

"Something that should hurt the other team!" Midoriya says.

Shouta wishes he could say he's surprised.

But he isn't.

"If this works then there's only two possible teachers left for them to recruit!" Midoriya says.

"Right because I took care of Midnight."

"Exactly!"

Shouta feels a headache forming.

"There's no classes for us because of the prep week so I'm going to have us all head to gym 1."

"Why?"

"Because we're going to be talking to a few 1B recruits. You, Mr. Mic, Hitoshi and Mei are going to be in Mei's support lab. I don't want them to know about you guys till they have joined. Shouto will also be with you because I want him working with you guys, 1B trusts Monoma and Momo so they'll be with me. Otherwise they might give something away to the other team."

"Solid plan."

"Thank you Mr. Aizawa!"

"Do you have anything you want us to work on while you're gone?" Hizashi asks.

"Yes actually! I want everyone to write down any hobbies they have! I want to see if anyone is forgetting a skill they have. We'll also be reviewing each other's lists to make sure we can't add to it!"

"Sounds good kid. Have you thought about you second in command?"

"Originally it was going to be Momo or Mei. Both of them are incredibly intelligent and have the ability to carry out my plans."

"But?"

"If I recruit a lot of 1B students it might be better socially to have Monoma or Kendo, is she joins, as my second because the hero courses don't respect the other courses and 1B isn't going to want to be bossed around by two 1A students. So having one from each class is better."

Shouta is impressed. The kid seems to have a good understanding of group dynamics. It's refreshing to see.

"Good job kid. And once you get back?"

"Then we're going to go over strategies and plans and I am going to see what sort of training everyone needs to have. And get measurements for our suits."

"Tell Mei that each suit should have extra padding in the stomach and arms."

"Why?"

"Because when Shou needs to use his capture weapon on someone on his side those are where he grabs them. We have this move where he spins me in a circle while I scream, to keep us from being surrounded. And a similar one where he spins Midnight over a crowd of people to disperse her mist better."

"I'll make sure to let her know. I gotta go talk to Powerloader before the recruitment thing," Izuku says rushing out the door with the papers he and Hizashi were working on.

"Do I even want to know?" Shouta asks.

"Nothing bad. I just finally got to use my contract writing a ability."

Shouta breathes a sigh of relief…

"Wait what!"

Chapter 11

Izuku has the contract in his backpack as he leaves Mei's lab making sure she has the instructions for the meeting today.

He carefully knocks on the door of Powerloader's lab.

"Come in!" He hears and he walk in.

Powerloader is at his counter. Working on what might be a headset of some sort.

"Ah, Midoriya, what can I do for you?"

"Good morning Mr. Powerloader! I was just wondering if you were considering joining with a team in the civil war."

"Sorry kid…I'm just not villain material."

Izuku nods. He thought as much.

"That's fine. But are you considering joining the hero team?"

Powerloader blinks at him. He's not wearing his helmet which is new to Izuku, but now is time for business, not analysis.

"I'll be honest with you kid. If they ask I wouldn't say no."

Izuku nods.

"I have an offer."

"An offer? Kid, I said I wouldn't join the villains."

"My offer is not about joining the villains. It's about not joining the heroes," Izuku says pulling the contract out of his bag.

Powerloader raises an eyebrow at him.

"In this contract you will find that Hatsume Mei has agreed to give you sole licensing rights to three of her most valuable inventions and has vowed to refrain from causing explosions in class for one month."

Powerloader blinks.

"In exchange for what?"

"In exchange you agree to not join the hero team, nor tell anyone of this agreement before the first day of the actual war."

Powerloader grins.

"Make it 1.5 months and I'll sign."

Izuku pulls out another contract.

"This one stipulates 1.5 months."

If Powerloader is concerned about him having two versions of the contract he doesn't show it.

Instead pulling out the pen and signing. Mei's signature is already there and once he's done Izuku signs it.

"Thank you Mr. Powerloader!" Izuku says.

"Sure kid. Knock em dead out there." Powerloader says grinning.

Izuku waves as he leaves and runs out of the room.

He can't believe that worked.

He makes a copy of the contract and drops it with Nedzu. Then heads down to the gym.

Momo and Monoma are already there and he's sad to see that a few students he had sent invitations to aren't here. But none of them are crucial to the plan, nor overly helpful to the other side.

But there are a few here that he wants to get.

"Good morning everyone! Thank you for coming here. I know there were other things you would like to do today. But thank you for coming." Izuku says cheerfully.

Friendly means trustworthy.

He talks to them for an hour. Subtly changing tactics as they discuss.

It's actually easier than he thought. They don't all agree to join, but the ones that don't promise not to reveal how many people he recruited from 1B.

Which he is grateful for.

In the end he ends up with 8 new recruits.

Kendo, who will be instrumental to gaining 1B's compliance.

He manages to get Awase, Kaibara, and Honenuki, whose combination of welding, gyrate, and softening quirks will be invaluable.

Pony is a surprise, but then again it might have been because he recruited her in English. She felt appreciated.

Kuroiro is a surprise, Izuku thought for sure they would go with Tokoyami. But it might have been the fact that Komori joined as well.

The last member of 1B to join is Reiko Yanagi, her poltergeist quirk is soooooo cool…

Not the time. Focus Izuku!

A few of the people who refuses admitted that they just couldn't devote the time to this assignment. While others planned to join when open sign ups started.

Either way that works out for him. He waits until the students not joining leave and then he turns to his new recruits.

"Thank you for choosing me. I promise to be worthy of the trust you have placed in me," he says and leads them up to the lab.

They have work to do.

Chapter 12

Shouta will be honest. He didn't think the Problem Child would get more than maybe 1B student.

But he's pleasantly surprised when he comes in with a decent group.

"Okay guys, step one is me picking a second in command who will step up as leader if I am captured or killed. Kendo? I know it's a big responsibility to place on your shoulders. But I would be honored if you would be my second in command."

Kendo nods.

"Okay step two, this is Mei of the support course and Hitoshi of the Gen Ed course. I trust them and I am placing trust in each of you to keep them, and Mr. Mic and Mr. Aizawa as our secret weapons. We don't want the other team to know about them. Most of the hero team is going to underestimate us. Kac…Bakugou will not. And he is a threat."

"I mean duh, he has a crazy quirk…"

"No. He is dangerous because he will not underestimate me. He knows how I think. He might not be able to figure out my plans but he will know something is a plan."

"Then what? We take him out first?"

"Not immediately. We're lucky he's not leading the team but also harmed by it. If he were the leader it would likely decrease morale, but because Kirishima is the leader Bakugou's attitude will be filtered through Kirishima. Making him seem a little less hostile."

"Again I say so we take him out first?"

"No. There are certain aspects to this exercise that I was able to read between the lines. Bakugou needs to have at least one patrol."

"Then what?"

"Then we take him out but in a very special way."

"Oh?"

"I want you guys to enjoy the show as we do it so I'll need my own voice changer." Midoriya says.

"Okay."

"Great, now we need to focus on these students in 1B." He says pointing.

"Why?"

"Because they said they were going to ASK to join, so them and anyone else on the team already need to be taken out."

"Why?"

"Because they aren't waiting till open enrollment happens. The ones who are, are as much a liability to them as us."

"Explain Problem Child." Shouta says.

"Well while the open enrollment students add umbers to the hero team, they are gonna join three days before the exercise. That's not enough time to seamlessly integrate them to the plans and stuff."

"So we take out people who know the plan so that the students who don't fully know of understand things are left." Kendo says.

"Exactly!"

Shouta's impressed. He quickly looks when his phone buzzes.

Melatonin: Emi asked me out!

Caffeinate: so?

Melatonin: useless gay. I'm gonna scream with Zashi later.

Caffeinate: I'm happy for you Nemuri.

Melatonin: it's a shame that it means I can't be recruited to a team now :(

Caffeinate: oh well

Melatonin: oh well this is great we're going to a museum!

Caffeinate: then I suppose you'll have to find an appropriate outfit

Melatonin: fuck

Shouta smiles softly.

He looks up to see Midoriya looking at him.

"Midnight is confirmed not able to join the hero team."

"Good. That means their next stop is probably Vlad King."

"Why?"

"Because their plan is to have Cementoss trap us and originally have Mr. Aizawa erase our quirks so we're taken out quickly. But that didn't work. Mr. Mic would be next. Then Midnight. The only teacher left would be Vlad King or Thirteen and we all know Thirteen doesn't like to use their quirk on people."

"They're also not going to be able to get support items." Mei says.

"How come?"

"Because the only two people who are fast enough to make enough stuff are me and Powerloader and we bribed him to refuse a spot on the hero team." Mei says.

Shouta prays that's not the contract Mic helped make but honestly with way things are going it probably was.

"Now, I am going to disect the other team's quirks and figure out who should fight who and who should run."

What follows is hours of Midoriya painstakingly pulling apart every quirk on the hero team. And how best to counter it. And who should fight or run.

Shouta wonders how he missed this skill.

He'll have to talk to Midoriya.

Chapter 13

Izuku isn't worried when Mr. Aizawa asks him to stay after their strategy meeting.

He's terrified.

What could his teacher want with him?

Is he going to be expelled?

Did he act as the villain too well?

He's practically shaking when the lab empties leaving him and Mr. Aizawa alone.

Mr. Aizawa sits across from him.

"Okay problem child some things aren't adding up."

"W…what do you mean?"

"Well let's start at the entrance exam. You had no control over your quirk, it didn't look like you had trained with it at all. And you completely broke yourself with it. And again on the first day of classes. Which normally would show a student is lazy or apathetic to improvement of their quirk or too full of hubris. But that's not your."

"I have seen you pull apart everyone's quirks. Analyze all but mine. You've made exponential leaps in mastering your quirk. You show the symptoms of having been bullied but with a quirk like yours you wouldn't have been. You're an enigma problem child and I just want to help you. Please talk to me?"

Oh…oh thank God he, Nedzu, and All Might had worked this story out.

"I…was a late bloomer. Nedzu thinks the stress of the entrance exam forced mine to manifest. That or my training for the exam paid off by making my body able to finally handle my quirk."

Aizawa blinks.

"You quirk manifested here?"

"Yeah…"

"So before that you were…"

"Quirkless."

"Fuck kid."

Wow he never thought Aizawa would be the first one to curse in front of him.

He thought for sure it would be Mic.

"I'm sorry," Aizawa says bowing.

"What!" Izuku says wide eyed.

"I assumed that your poor control was due to laziness. That is why I was so harsh on you during the quirk test. I didn't…I didn't want to have to watch…"

"You didn't want me to end up like your friend." Izuku says.

"That's still not an excuse. I made a snap judgement and it was wrong and for that I am sorry."

"W…wow I think you might be the first teacher to ever apologize to me…" Izuku says softly.

"Pro…Midoriya, I know the statistics for Quirkless kids…answer me honestly please, were you bullied?"

Izuku nods slowly. This is surreal. How the fuck is he supposed to respond?

Aizawa let's out a shaky sigh.

"And the teachers did nothing?"

Another nod.

"Okay. Thank you for trusting me with this Midoriya. You're doing great. One more question, do you want me to make the school regret it?"

"What?"

"Nothing that happened to you is okay kid. There needs to be consequences. But I won't force you."

Izuku considers this.

"I…can I think about it?"

"Of course Midoriya."

Izuku flinches.

"What's wrong?"

"N…nothing…just you stopped calling me problem child."

"I wasn't sure if it was upsetting to you."

"I doesn't. It's not mean when you say it."

Mr. Aizawa ruffles his hair.

"Okay Problem Child." He says and then seems to consider something.

"If you ever need to talk about it…Hound Dog is an amazing resource. And you can always talk to me."

"I don't want to bother you with this stuff…"

Mr. Aizawa sighs.

"Did you know Erasure has a mutation element? The brain of a four year old can't handle it."

"W…what?"

"Yeah. My brain didn't develop it till age 8. I know four years is nothing compared to the ten years you spent being considered Quirkless but even after erasure came in, it was a villain's quirk according to everyone at my school. So problem child I will never think less of you if you need to talk about it."

Izuku feels his eyes well up with tears.

This is…he never expected Mr. Aizawa to get it. He's so cool Izuku never considered how he would have been treated as a kid.

He's startled when arms wrap around him.

"Let it out problem child. I'm right here," Aizawa whispers soothingly.

And Izuku let's himself cry.

Chapter 14

Kirishima feels great. Most of the class teamed up with him. He even got Tetsutetsu to join him!

And the rules for the exercise were super easy to understand.

And getting Mr. Cementoss on his side was a stroke of luck. And it looks like Midoriya still hasn't managed to find a teacher to join him let alone two.

Not being able to recruit Mr. Aizawa was a hard blow. And so was not being able to recruit Miss Midnight. But they got Mr. Vlad King to join them. Which means the plan is still a go.

Have Mr. Cementoss trap the villains in one area and Vlad King restrain them. Then he can have one or two of his teammates arrest them!

It's great.

The hero team is totally gonna win! He didn't even see Midoriya recruiting. He was in the cafeteria and by then Kirishima had already gotten his first teacher!

But that doesn't mean they can spend the time relaxing. Bakugou had insisted on extra training in one of the gyms.

Kirishima doesn't think it's necessary but he made Bakugou his second in command for a reason.

He's so manly!

Bakugou even came up with a patrol schedule. Something Fourth Kind didn't teach him about and while Fatgum had taken him on some he didn't have much time to go into the process behind setting one up before the Yakuza case picked up.

But that's okay! That's why they have so many different kids here. To share what they learned.

Uraraka has been showing them what she learned with Gunhead. Tsu has been going over rescue training though her experience was more tailored to water. And they too had only base knowledge of patrols from their work studies.

Luckily Bakugou learned about this in his internship.

Bakugou had also warned them about underestimating Midoriya. That of anyone could pose a threat it would be him. Obviously not to Bakugou but to the rest of them and they all had to agree. Midoriya is a beast. Which is why he's Bakugou's problem.

Their agency is huge. He got to see the floor plan and everything! One room each and plenty of space like he and the team requested.

They're so going to win.

They have physical training scheduled everyday. Have learned their patrol routes and he even put on his requests to Lunch Rush. Satou had helped him figure out how much food they would need for all the people he recruited and who had joined.

Four days before the actual exam and they already have everything set up.

And then that Friday…

Mr. Aizawa had come up to him and told him that a bunch of 1B students had joined early that morning.

Which is awesome! More members mean more hands on deck.

But Bakugou was shouting about how there isn't enough time for him to redesign the patrol routes and not enough time for the new extras to learn their routes.

And Satou was gnawing on his lip because they had ordered enough provisions for their original number. Not for the new one.

And Uraraka was telling him that they would have to see about putting in a new work order for their agency so there would be enough rooms for the new people. But Powerloader said that it would take a day for the form to be processed and that he couldn't have the new stuff added until two days into the exam.

And the new students are behind in the physical training so now their training sessions were cut in half. Half the time for the original group and half the time for the new group to start from the basics. Cutting into their advancement.

Which Bakugou was not happy with and he made that well known.

And everyone was miserable because they had to train on the weekend.

But it'll all be okay. They'll win!

Chapter 15

If you ask Hizashi Yamada if he has a favorite student he would say no.

He's a teacher. He's not supposed to have a favorite.

But he'll admit there are some students who he likes.

And Midoriya Izuku is one of them.

He knew from day one that there was something there. A predator waiting to come out. Hidden behind the stuttering and anxiety.

After all. Hizashi does the same.

Everyone forgets how smart he is.

They think Shou is the brains.

He's not.

By now means is his husband stupid! Don't get him wrong.

But Hizashi is slightly smarter.

They have a bet going about how long they think it'll take people to figure him out.

The only one that has is Nemuri. And Nedzu already knew.

But like recognizes like. That's how Midoriya knew he would be a good recruit.

When he realized that they were doing Hero v. Villains he was gonna suggest Midoriya for the villain side. Let the predator out for a bit.

But he didn't need to. All Might beat him to it.

And well…who are they to question All Might when it comes to Midoriya?

So he seconded and Shouta agreed with them.

Hizashi thought he was gonna have to wait till the actual exam to see what Midoriya could do. But no. The kid had recruited him and

Shouta.

He gets VIP Access backstage to the show.

And what a show it is.

Shooting lessons for all of them.

Sniper lessons for Shouta and Hatsume.

Experimenting with binoculars and Shouta's quirk.

Who know if would work through some enhancements but not others?

Reflective lenses in Shouta's goggles and a shit ton of hair gel for him.

A capture weapon for Hitoshi.

Semi automatic paint guns for all of them. Sniper rifles for their snipers.

And bombs full of red paint.

A voice changer for Midoriya. Hizashi isn't sure why he needs that but he won't question it.

First aid lessons with Recovery Girl and lessons on viruses where shouta steaks a sample of something.

Hizashi doesn't even want to know.

Midoriya has them watching videos on applying makeup to disguise themselves.

Hizashi proves to be very good at that.

With Momo and Neito producing makeup and medical equipment they're doing pretty good.

Watching Hatsume hack into the schematics for the training ground is frankly scary.

But now they have maps.

And they go over every inch of them.

Maps of the city.

Each building in the city.

The roads.

Alleys.

Side streets.

Rooftops.

Even the sewers.

Hizashi freshens up on his knowledge of law.

Midoriya learned all of their favorite foods and had those packed in with their provisions.

They learned his and insisted he request them too.

Hatsume produces weapon after weapon and once they have the functional version their two suppliers make more and more of them.

Midoriya tosses Momo's book out day one. Giving her an arm mounted tablet.

And Hizashi definitely loves his new suits.

They go over their first attack objectives.

Hizashi has never been afraid of a student.

Never.

But finding out 4 or more objectives at once…that terrifies him.

They can do it. They know they can. But still you only go after four objectives at once if you intend to overwhelm the heroes.

Hizashi is super proud.

"So…shall we have a pool for this assignment tomorrow?" Nemuri breaks him out of his thoughts.

"What?"

"A betting pool!"

"I suppose it couldn't hurt?" All Might says.

"It would be unfair for Kan and I to bet." Cementoss says.

"Not really." Nedzu says.

"Come on let's go. All Might? What do you say?"

"I'll put…100,000 yen on the villain team winning."

"That's it?"

"I promised Young Midoriya that I wouldn't bet more than that if there was a bet," All Might says rubbing the back of his head.

"I made no such agreement," Aizawa says, "200,000 yen on the villain team."

"Same 200,000 yen for the villains." Hizashi adds.

Nemuri stares at them and seems to consider it then says, "150,000 yen on the villains."

Nedzu cackles as he places his own 250,000 yen on the villains.

Snipe isn't quite so bold and only puts 50,000 yen on the villains.

Recovery Girl smirks knowingly as she places a 100,000 yen bet for the villains.

Thirteen, Lunch Rush and Hound Dog abstain.

Leaving Ectoplasm, Cementoss, and Vlad who put 100,000 yen each on the heroes.

"Welp as fun as this was, I have a date tonight." Midnight says.

"Same. Shou finally has a night off for a date. I'm dragging him on one before the detective can call him for an emergency patrol or something else."

That gets the appropriate amount of cooing from all but All Might who knows Hizashi is full of shit.

At exactly midnight they'll head into the facility and get themselves sorted out.

And then…

Well…

Then it's showtime.

Chapter 16

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

Shouta wakes of the day of the exam early and goes out to the kitchen.

Really early.

So early it should have been a crime.

12:00 am early.

But they need time in order to get themselves set up.

The exercise start when they commit their first crime. Before that they have to get ready.

Shouta had seen the hero team training most of the day and while Bakugou, Iida, and Kirishima had tried to convince their team to turn in for bed early he knows he saw several, more than normal, staying up late.

And if he had been less strict about bed time that's perfectly within the rules.

Meanwhile most of the villain team had spent the day sleeping so they could get up in time to head out for the mission.

Sneaking out their bedroom windows is child's play.

So is meeting up with their 1B teammates and Hitoshi and Mei.

They plan to strike at 3:00 am. Apparently the night owls go to bed at 2:00 am so they'll be woken from sleep rather than being awake.

That gives them two hours to bring their stuff to the hideout.

It's slow going until Hizashi finally shows up. Having had to drop something off with All Might before coming. At which point the truck that Shouta is too terrified to ask how Mei made is able to be used.

None of them have a license for trucks except Hizashi. The rest of them learned to drive motorcycles and ATVs.

Again he's not gonna ask how she made those.

He doesn't want to know.

At all.

Nope.

He just hopes it was legal.

They get the base set up and they split into their groups.

"Remember, Team Arson you go first and set fire to the three office buildings clustered at the northern most point of the city."

Todoroki nod with Monoma next to him, and Momo slightly behind.

"Once we see heroes in site we will relay how many came to us," he says.

"Once he does that it's my turn in the west side of the city with Honenuki." Kaibara says.

"Yes. Team Sinkhole will target some of the residential homes containing the R Level citizens. Then call out over comms who came over to us."

"Which is Team Robbery's cue to rob the bank in the East side." Kendo says, clapping Awase and Yanagi on the shoulders.

"Pony, Komori, and I will remain close by base in case you need to send us out to back up a team." Kuroiro says.

"Mei and I will be keeping an eye on things from here. Make sure everything goes smoothly and recalibrating as we go. Team Stealth?" Midoriya asks.

"Hitoshi and I will be ready to go as soon as we know where all heroes are." Shouta says.

"Which is my job. To watch and make sure that all the heroes are where they are supposed to be. Once I know where everyone is I can cue up Team Stealth for their act," Hizashi says.

"Good. Mic get into position. You too Team Stealth. Remember in and out. And this is for all of you, keep in constant contact and tell me if you need help. No one try to be a hero." Midoriya says with a smirk.

"After all…"

"...we are the villains."

Chapter End Notes

And so it begins. Better gather up that list of objects so you can follow along with the UA teachers!

Chapter 17

Kirishima

Kirishima jerks awake when the alarm in the dorms goes off.

What?

His phone is ringing…hadn't he silenced it?

He picks it up.

"Hello?"

"Hello Red Riot! Principal Nedzu, and a I dog or a bear? What's important is I'm the principal! And what's slightly less important is the heroes vs. villains assignment has begun!"

"But it's…" he checks the time, "3am!"

"Yes but the villain team could perform their first crime at any time today. Now gather you're team and meet me at the training ground."

There's a click as the Principal hangs up.

Kirishima yelps and gets tangled in his blankets as he gets up.

He rushes into the common room as the other students gather outside.

"What's happening? I just got to bed?" Mina asks.

"Apparently the villain team made their first move."

There's a series of soft curses from everyone and a string of them from Bakugou.

"Come on we don't have time to waste. We should collect the rest of our teammates and make our way to the changing room." Iida says.

"Right! Let's go guys!" Kirishima says.

Todoroki

Shouto doesn't know what possessed him to join Midoriya's team.

That's a lie.

He does know. He's just not willing to think about how he would follow his first friend down any path he decided to take.

He was shocked that only he and Y…Momo had joined with Midoriya. Don't their other friends know that Midoriya would be the logical choice?

He supposes Iida and Tsu make sense. Iida had almost gone down the wrong path once and doesn't want to do so again. Even for a school assignment. And Tsu wants to go into rescue. Not many opportunities to experience rescue as a villain.

He's most surprised at Uraraka. One of the closest to Midoriya. And yet she had decided to face against him.

He would have thought she would jump at the chance to have a rematch against Bakugou.

Alas she hadn't.

Her loss.

His left side feels incredibly warm as he pours fire throughout the basement and first floors of the office building.

Mei had taken care of the cameras.

If it wasn't for the fact that obviously this had to be a crime to start the assignment anyone could mistake this as an accidental fire.

Momo is in the next building over, a flamethrower doing his job for her. And he knows Monoma is in the third office building with both his borrowed quirk and his own flamethrower.

Once he's sure the fire will spread enough to pose trouble for the heroes he taps his comm.

"Genasi here. Mimic and Conjuration come in."

"We're here Genasi." Momo…Conjurations voice comes through.

"Yeah?" Monom…mimic asks.

"Progress report?"

"I just want to get some of these support beams and I'm done." Mimic says.

"I'm ready for phase two." Conjuration says.

"Yeah! Finally got those beams. I'm ready to go."

"Okay make your ways to the meet up point." Shouto says.

The meet up point is a few blocks away. Not in a direction that the heroes would go in. At least not right away.

"Bard here. I've got eyes on the hero hopefuls. They all seem to be heading for the fire. Team Arson I think it's time to blow that joint."

"Thanks Bard. Team Stealth you know you're mission. In and out nothing fancy. Not a hint of you being there." Mido…Rogue says. Why are these code names so hard to use. How do pros never mess up?

"Team Sinkhole. This is your cue," Rogue says.

"Time to go." Mimic says coming up behind him. These suits Artificer made are amazing quite frankly. Blending in seamlessly with the dark of the night and somehow even reduce the sound of their feet on the ground.

And their goggles allow them to zoom in and see in the dark.

They take off into the dark of night without anyone the wiser.

Kirishima

Kirishima stares at the massive fire burning ahead of him as he makes his way through the city.

Did Midoriya really do something like this?

Setting the buildings furthest from the entrance on fire? Why? It's not his sort of thing…

…Is it?

No. Midoriya is a good guy. This is just an exercise.

He stares up at the building before turning to a robotic fire fighter.

"Is there anyone inside?"

"No Red Riot."

Kirishima breathes out a sigh of relief.

This is just a mission to put out a fire. They don't all need to be here.

But who to keep.

Himself obviously, Uraraka can float away debris, Sero would be useful to stop the building from falling. Koda too.

Bakugou, Hagakure and Tokoyama probably not…oh and he can't send Tsu near there the fire will dry her out.

He opens his mouth to send the people back to base. But before he can another rescue bot is coming up to him.

"Red Riot! A sink hole is swallowing up a few apartment buildings."

Seriously?

Just how much damage is Midoriya trying to cause?

"Alright…Uravity, Tokoyami uh…Froppy, Jirou, Cementoss, and Sato. Go to the site of the sink hole. First priority is rescuing civilians, second is stabilizing the ground, and third is preventing the complete destruction of the building," Kirishima says.

"Yes Red Riot!" They say and head off into the city.

Kaibara

"Team Sinkhole you've got a few heroes heading your way!" Mic, he refuses to use those codenames unless it's out loud, says over comms.

"Thanks Bard. Team Sinkhole is taking care of phase 2. Then we will return to base," Sen says and looks over at Honenuki who has just finished up with the last of their mission.

"We should get to higher ground and make our way back to base. There's still two more missions ongoing," His partner says.

Sen nods.

"Team Sinkhole here. We're going to take stock of who they sent to us."

"Good work Team Sinkhole. Team Arson has already made it back. Bard keep eyes on the main group. Team Robbery's the only ones that will have direct contact with them."

"Speaking of, should we try to take out a hero if we can?" Kendo's voice comes through the comms.

"Only if the opportunity presents itself. I would prefer it if you were able to clear the objective without being seen but if you are then kill as many as you can before coming back."

"Aye aye boss."

"Team Sinkhole get out of there. They've got Jirou with them." Mic says.

"Thanks Bard." Sen says looking at Honenuki.

"What's say we get out of here."

He nods and they take off into the night.

"Team Sinkhole on our way to base."

"Team Robbery now's your time."

Uraraka

Uraraka stops a few yards from the house currently sinking into the ground.

There's robots desperately trying to get out of the windows and doors.

Calling for help.

Uraraka looks between the people she was sent with. Kirishima hadn't told them who was in charge on this mission.

He activates her comm.

"Red Riot, Uravity requesting permission to take control of the scene."

Thank god for work studies.

"Granted Uravity."

Uraraka breathes a sigh of relief.

She can do this.

Right?

"Okay Froppy and I will work on rescuing civilians. Sato, Tokoyami, and Cementoss can you stabilize the building?"

"Yes!"

"Jirou can you listen and keep us notified of any immediate rescues and how many people are left?"

"Yeah."

"Alright guys let's get to work."

A sudden scream has them all turning to look.

The ambulance and several of the ones behind it has suddenly… suddenly sunk into the ground.

"Tokoyami check on them and call in for more medical personnel…tell them to avoid those roads."

How did Deku do all this?

Kirishima

Kirishima can tell Bakugou is getting antsy.

He hasn't been able to do much. His explosions would cause too much trouble.

Should he send some of the others to the base or should he send some more backup to the sinkhole?

He's not sure. Shit.

A police bot comes up to him.

What now? All these attacks are so unmanly.

"Red Riot there is a break in at the 1st Bank of Japan!"

Okay.

A robbery.

He knows who to send.

"Bakugou, Vlad King, Real Steel, and Kaminari you are in charge of handling this mission." He says.

"Yes Red Riot!"

"I'll kill those villainous bastards."

"Priority one is getting any civilians out. Then apprehending the criminals responsible."

They take off.

Kendo

Robbing a bank is surprisingly easy when you don't care about tripping alarms or the doors.

Having Awase weld anything and everything to the doors and windows was a streak of genius.

No line of sight in, except for the special hole for Yanagi, and no way to just brute force the doors.

And Mei had given them a blowtorch to get through the vault door.

It was easy pickings for Yanagi to literally make the money fly into the bad.

"Awase don't forget to delete the bank records. We don't want them tracing the serial numbers." Kendo says watching him plug in the drive Mei had also give them.

"Heads up Team Robbery, we've got a Bomeranian," Bard says.

That's the one person they didn't want.

"Shit that's the one person we didn't want."

"Who else Bard?"

"Tin Can and Blood Man."

"Rogue we're done with our mission. Need an extraction," Kendo says.

"Rerouting Team Sinkhole into Team Extraction. Contingency plan annoyance is a go. Team Extraction what's your ETA?"

"Once you distract them 4 minutes." Comes Kaibara's voice over the comms.

"Bard you're going to mission phase 1a. Go to the bank as backup. You have my full permission to do whatever you need to do to take out any hero."

Kendo moves aside to let Yanagi look through her special hole in the blockade.

As soon as they can see the three heroes coming down the street trash starts flying at them.

"Distraction in place. Go go go Team Extraction!" Kendo demands.

What follows is four minutes of hell.

Vlad King had taken cover. But Bakugou and Real Steel were still trying to fight through the storm of trash. And Yanagi was running out of trashcans to stick over the head of the blonde.

Finally Kendo sees Kaibara stick his head out from a hole in the ground.

"Team Extraction is here."

"Best Uber ever!" Awase says.

Kendo knows speed is important so she shoves Yangi into the hole and closes the vault to hide them from a few minutes.

The blockade and the vault door should buy them time to get out of here.

They climb down into the tunnel the boys had dug.

This one leads them a few blocks from the bank. Kendo holding the bag of money still.

"We should get back to the base." Honenuki says and they all share a nod.

"Teams Robbery and Extraction on their way to base!"

Hizashi Yamada knows he's not the quietest person ever. But he married Shouta of all people.

So of course he's capable of being quiet.

He's also capable of stealth.

When he'd seen Bakugou heading for the bank he had immediately followed.

Team Robbery wasn't built for combat. Well combat with Bakugou at least.

So he followed to lend some support. It's unneeded but it does put him near where Vlad is struggling. Bakugou had already gotten pretty close to the bank. Real Steel powering through trash right behind him.

But Vlad had taken refuge off the street to avoid using too much of his blood so early.

Vlad's never had much situational awareness.

And Rogue gave the kill order.

Vlad looks good glaring at him with the back of his skull stained yellow from his Paintball gun.

He takes off before the other two realize Vlad didn't follow once the trash storm died down.

He heads back to the fire.

"Bard here. Blood Bag is dead."

"Good work Bard. You have my permission to take out any other heroes you can. But don't be seen."

"Yes boss," he says but he doesn't seem much opportunity for that. There's too many people too close together for that.

Oh well.

They got one.

Hitoshi

Hitoshi sighs as he climbed the stairs out of the basement after finishing the last piece of his job.

"Shadow Monk?"

"Behind you."

Hitoshi does not scream.

"When do I learn to do that?" He demands from his mentor.

"Not today. Let's go. We did what we needed to."

Hitoshi nods and they leave the building they had broken into.

"Team Stealth? You guys done yet?" Mic asks over the comms.

"Yeah just finished."

There are a few mutters of finally.

"Hey don't blame us. We had a significantly more delicate mission." Hitoshi says.

"Alright Team Stealth return to base. You too Bard." Rogue says.

Izuku

Izuku sighs when the last of his team comes into the base.

Hitoshi collapses into one of the chairs. Aizawa on the couch and Mic

on top of him.

He claps his hands.

"Good work everyone. You completed your missions admirably."

"What's next boss?"

"Rest." Izuku smiles.

"Team Backup was napping for most of this so we'll take watch so that everyone else can get some shut eye," Kuroiro says and Pony and Komori nod.

"Thanks team Backup. I promise you'll have a bit more excitement tomorrow."

"It's fine boss. Each cog has a purpose. We know you have something for us. Or we wouldn't be here."

"Shroom! Of course he does!" Komori says.

"Me, Mic, Momo, Neito, and Todoroki need to be awake at 6 tomorrow morning."

"What are doing?"

"Cleaning up a few messes," Izuku says, smiling.

Chapter 18

Nemuri wasn't expecting a phonecall from Nedzu to be what she received a few hours after the end of her date.

But it was.

Telling her that the villain team had entered into the training grounds. Meaning she has to come there immediately.

At least she got to go in her date.

She texts Emi to let her know. She doesn't want the greenette to think Nemuri is trying to ghost her.

When she gets to the observation room most of the other teachers are there.

Except Cementoss, Vlad, Hizashi, and Shouta…huh? Shouta barely sleeps and Hizashi is a hummingbird on crack. Surely they would be the first here…

…Unless…

Oh those clever assholes.

Even All Might is there in…All Might pajamas?

"Um…Yagi?"

The blonde blushes.

"Mirai bought me these for the birthday prior to our falling out. He had a love of gag gifts. I…wanted part of him here for this."

"Wait you knew they were going to start this early?"

"Not the precise time. But because of my injuries I require to keep a routine as much as I can. Young Midoriya was kind enough to alter it for me so that this wouldn't impact it." Yagi says thumbing through a familiar style of notebook.

"Midoriya gave you a notebook?"

"It's the villain team's playbook. He gave it to me in order to provide

information if we question certain actions he might take."

"How long have you had it?"

"A member of his team delivered it right before I went to bed."

"You shouldn't alter your schedule too much Yagi."

"I know Recovery Girl. But I would gladly risk my health to be here for my students."

"Now that we are here I believe it is time to tune into the assignment field.

"But wait the loud blonde trope isn't here." Snipe says.

"I am aware. It can't be helped," Nedzu says.

Nemuri blinks and settles in.

Let's see what the kids can do.

When the villain team finally turns in for the night Nemuri is left staring at the screens.

"M…Midoriya thought up all of that?" Snipe asks softly.

They had taken out Vlad.

No. Hizashi, the loud blonde, had walked up right to Vlad and shot him point blank in the head.

Nemuri doesn't believe it.

And Todoroki, Momo and Monoma of all all people had worked together flawlessly to set three buildings on fire.

How.

Did they all miss something?

Yagi had coughed up blood several times but he's beaming like a proud father.

How did he know Midoriya was capable of this?

And the sinkholes had been genius.

A natural disaster as a second attack. And then the bank heist.

The only thing that hadn't accounted for was Bakugou going towards them. Or had they and decided that the risk was worth the reward?

They had been prepared with multiple slow down options and while they had needed an extraction it was effective and well thought out.

Nemuri is still shocked.

But she can't help but burst out laughing when Vlad walks in hair wet from his shower and still slightly yellow.

"Which of the kids shot me?"

"Wasn't a kid."

"Then who?" Vlad says then seems to notice the two not here.

"Aizawa shot me?"

"Nope his better half did." Snipe cackles.

"We actually have no idea where Aizawa was," Ectoplasm says.

Vlad grumbles.

"Ah…Young Midoriya left this for you in the event you were removed from play. He had intended to leave you in play till day three." Yagi says handing over a neatly bound bundle of papers.

Vlad takes it and flips through it.

"The…this is professional grade analysis!"

"Yes. It is a hobby of his."

Vlad stares at him.

"I would like to see that later. I can add it to the stuff I would like to talk to Midoriya about. But for now, shall we go through what we witnessed and how they did?"

They all nod.

"Let's start with the villain team."

"Using an early start time was ingenious. It took the kids far too long to get ready, get here, and then into their hero suits. It gave Team Arson a chance to get away. Because while all of them are incredibly good at mobility, they are not mobile and stealthy. Those extra minutes allowed them to get away."

"They also had Mic watching the whole time and telling them who was where."

"Wait how long was Mic watching us?"

"From the moment you stepped into the city."

"I thought it was the cameras."

"Nope."

Vlad looks like his whole world view has been altered.

"Going after multiple objectives, both covertly and obvious so early in the game was quite useful. The hero team wasn't as sure footed as the would have been after a few hours in the assignment. So now would be the time for small units in multiple places. It also prevented the whole hero team from going to one site and quickly handling things. Splitting up the heros was very smart, especially in Team Robbery's case." Yagi says.

"Right, if there had been more heroes there, or different ones, the outcome might have been different."

"That's one thing they didn't do. They didn't account for strong quirks heading to the robbery. So they had to improvise. If the extraction had been a moment off…"

"But even that extraction seemed planned. Like they intended for it."

"Or they planned a contingency."

"Delaying first responders with that sinkhole on the road was clever thinking.

"And giving a standing kill order for Mic allowed them to execute a pro hero."

"Midoriya was in constant communication with his team. And the teams with each other."

"And 3 of the four missions were achieved."

"I'm worried about what team Stealth was up to but yeah."

"Yes it was quite impressive how the villain team was able to achieve 5 objectives for 39 points." Nedzu says and Yagi nods.

"What are you talking about? They only got 3 objectives. Arson, rob a bank, and kill a hero for 14 points?" Snipe says.

"Of course, my mistake," Nedzu says and they all share an uncomfortable look between them.

"Let us discuss the Hero Team."

"Well Kirishima knee to talk to the firefighters first to make sure that there were no civilians and seemed to be deciding what heroes needed to stay in scene. I think he was going to send the rest back before the sink hole"

"He sent heroes that would be weak at the fire like Asui and Tokoyami to the sink hold. Along with rescue trained heroes."

"Young Uraraka's family works in construction so she was an excellent choice regardless of her quirk." Yagi says.

"As was Cementoss."

"However he forgot to assign an on site leader. But they recovered by Uraraka outright asking him to."

"Aside from none of them noticing Mix following them, I think a big mistake he's making is not utilizing class 1B very much. Midoriya has proved that he will use whoever he can. Kirishima also was right to send a capture specialist, defense and attack to robbery but he sent the wrong people. It would have been easy to know Tetsutetsu and Bakugou were coming. Tokoyami would have been better but he had been sent off to a different site. He also didn't utilize the heroes who couldn't help with the fire with their quirks. Some of them could have been searching the scene or merely assisting with hose work."

"To be fair their rescue training was interupted." Thirteen says.

"Also don't be so hard on Kirishima. His rules were switched on day one." Nedzu says.

They stare at him.

"And Bakugou was too quick to anger when the team escaped he was releasing explosions like breathing. That could frighten victims or destroy evidence." Vlad says.

"You're just upset no one has noticed you're dead."

Nemuri can't deal with this.

She goes back to watching the cameras.

The heroes finally get the civilians out of sinking building and stabilize it.

They get the fire out.

And Bakugou storms out of the bank.

And find Vlad's "body" a scarecrow dresses like him with a splotch of paint on the back of it's head.

She sees Tetsutetsu stare at it before calling in the death.

Poor boy. A student shouldn't be the one to find their teacher dead.

It's horrible.

Eventually an hour before dawn the heroes drag themselves to the agency and into their rooms.

Some of the 1B students…the ones who joined at the three day mark are stuck camping in the lounge.

But they're out like they inhaled her quirk.

Poor kids.

As the sun rises they see the villains rise with it and…start applying makeup.

What?

The kids Midoriya mentioned having a mission are getting ready and putting on makeup.

And then when they're barely recognizable they head out.

"That little minx! He manipulated me!" Nemuri coos proudly.

That's why Midoriya had asked her about makeup!

"Ah Kayama I was given a note to read to you. It says 'Dear Midnight. I'm sorry that I tricked you. I wanted to learn makeup for disguise purposes and I know you couldn't help me for that. So I decided to try experimenting with makeup. Turns out my mom loved it and now I get to help her pick out colors in the morning. Thank you! Midoriya.'"

"Fine I guess I won't punish broccoli boy." She smiles. Happy that the boy was able to spend time with his mother. She was worried about family bonds being hurt with the dorms.

"I am suddenly all I had to do was make a contract," Powerloader says.

"I knew the gun lessons were suspicious!" Snipe says.

"I'm just glad the brats learned some field aid. It might come in handy." Chiyo says.

"Oh yes, young Midoriya left analyses for you all." Yagi says handing over their own little bundles.

Before she can flip through hers she looks up at the screen to see what the villains are doing and laughs.

"Oh, I love it, these kids have balls."

Chapter 19

Izuku smirks as he makes his way through the street.

The disguises that Mic made are amazing.

He barely recognizes himself.

How did he turn his hair black? How? Should have renamed him glamour bard instead?

Whatever. People had gathered at different areas to help after the events last night. There are people cleaning up from Yanagi's trash storm. People setting up a shelter for those displaced from the apartment sinking.

And clean up for rubble from the office buildings.

Todoroki went to the office buildings to serve food and drinks to those cleaning there.

Momo went to the shelter to do the same. Neito is doubling with serving water and food while also handing out supplies.

Meanwhile Mic and he are mingling in the cleanup crews.

Izuku is happy to note that his theory was right.

There was a clear difference between the civilians. R level Civilians are robots. And the other group…the other group are students.

He recognizes a few faces but not many.

He doesn't mind sweeping up trash because he gets to test the current climate of the people he has to play with.

"Hey careful!" A familiar voice says grabbing Izuku's arm as Izuku trips over his own feet.

It's Mirio.

That's why the third years couldn't help. If course.

"Oh…uh thanks."

Miro blinks and grins in recognition.

"Nice."

Izuku smiles.

"Thanks."

"After we're finished up here do you have time to talk? I would like to propose something to you." Mirio says.

"Of course." He nods as they clean.

He wonders what this could be about.

But at least Mirio isn't calling the heroes. That's good.

They chat as they work and soon the street and bank are put back in some semblance of order. Which is good.

He doesn't want to tank the city economy…yet.

Miro is apparently playing an executive from a competing bank. But that won't stop him from helping out with clean up. But he also has no reason to turn Izuku in.

Izuku knows some citizens have an identity in the city that they have to play.

Izuku just has to figure out Mirio's angle.

Is this a chance to knock out one of the five favors he's supposed to collect?

Well he guesses that he'll find out soon because they finally get the street clean.

As they walk they pass the office fire clean up and he sees Mic see him and motions to Mirio and mouths 'follow and observe.'

He's given a discrete nod.

He relaxes minutely as he leads Izuku to a public park.

Only time will tell what the older boy wants.

Chapter 20

When Mic saw Midoriya walking with Mirio he was understandably panicked.

This was not part of the plan.

Has he been found out?

And then when his leader had told him to follow and observe he nodded.

He can do that.

So he does.

He follows them to a park and he settles in a bench. Midoriya will give him a signal if he's needed.

He can just barely hear them by turning his hearing aides all the way up.

"So…what did you want to speak to me about Mr. Togata of Lemillion bank?"

"I wanted to discuss a business proposal."

Mic blinks.

Not what he was expecting.

"Oh? Of what sort?" Midoriya asks.

"The sort where you walk away with heavier pockets and I walk away with what I want."

"And what is that Mr. Togata?"

"Affairs of the heart I fear is what has brought me to this point. There is a boy whom I love and who loves me. However, he is also in love with a woman we went to school with and she, in love with him. And her and I can't stand each other. So, I wish to take her out of the running as it were.

He's showing pictures to Midoriya who is looking the man in the face.

"You want me to kill Nejire so that you can have Amajiki to yourself?"

"Yes!"

What the fuck.

Whi designed this backstory? It would have had to have been Nedzu.

No one else would think of something so crazy.

Midoriya looks at Mirio a long time.

"I would need to discuss this with my partners before agreeing."

"Oh of course!" Mirio says, smiling brightly.

"Stay in you're office tonight, very late. And we'll let you know our decision." Midoriya says and both students stand and exit the park in different directions.

Mic waits a few minutes before following Mirio to make sure he's not heading straight to Hero HQ.

Good he doesn't.

With that he heads back to base.

Chapter 21

Momo was and wasn't expecting real people in this exercise.

Obviously Midoriya had told them all about his suspicions but a theory and reality are two different things.

While the victims of the sinkhole are all robots, the volunteers helping at the shelter are alive. Students from multiple classes.

Handing out blankets and supplies to the robotic victims and Momo is handing out drinks to them and the volunteers.

She barely even looks like herself.

So she definitely isn't expecting Amajiki to come up to her area of the refreshments.

"Hello sir," she says filling a cup with water and handing it to him.

He looks away and mumbles something.

"I'm sorry? What was that?"

"I have a business proposal for you."

"I'm sorry I don't know what you mean?"

"I want to hire you to kill someone."

Momo blinks.

"W…"

"I'll speak to you more, away from here." Amajiki says going off to provide toiletries to the robots.

Monoma comes over to her.

"What happened?"

She fills him in quickly.

He stares at her.

"Least we can do is hear what he has to say and then decide whether

to kill him with Rogue."

Momo nods.

The place Amajiki picks is an alley in the fish market area.

No cameras. Very covert.

Momo made herself and Monoma guns just in case.

"You said you wanted to talk to us about a murder?" Momo says.

"Yes. There is s…someone I wish to leave me alone. The p…police won't help me. I'm sure the heroes will be the same. I know who you are and that you can h…help me." He stammers out.

"Start from the beginning please."

"Of course. I am…I like someone. They like me. We want to b…be happy together. B…but there's another person who…who likes me. And…well…this other person won't leave me alone."

Momo looks at Neito.

"Why don't you give us the name of the target and we will speak with the boss. We will alert you when we have decided whether to take your offer."

Amajiki nods and hands over the photo.

Chapter 22

Izuku

Izuku groans as he stares at his team.

"Okay so let's get this straight. We have a love corner. Where Mirio is in love with Tamaki, Tamaki is in love with Nejire and Nejire is in love with Tamaki." Izuku says.

"Apparently Mirio thinks Tamaki is in love with him AND Nejire. But…" Mic says.

"According to Amajiki, he is a stalker."

"So Togata wants us to kill Nejire, but Amajiki wants us to kill Togata."

Izuku groans.

His head hurts.

"Togata is willing to pay more for his request." Shouto adds.

Really who the hell thought of this story line.

Izuku pulls out his rules book with the objectives.

"Mimic go with team Sinkhole. Operation media storm is a go."

He has some thinking to do.

Kirishima

Kirishima wakes to his super late alarm piercing through his head and he forces himself out of bed.

Last night was exhausting.

First the fire. Then the sinkhole. Then a robbery. And then…

…And then Real Steel was calling over the comms that they had found

Vlad King's body in the street.

Barely two hours into the exercise and they had already lost a member.

And a pro hero at that.

This is so unmanly.

He'd had Shouji go and collect the body.

He honestly hadn't known what to do in this situation.

He's never lost a teammate. Well he did but in that case it had been call paramedics and they took Nighteye to the hospital. But he never had to call in a dead hero.

He'd had to ask Cementoss the procedure.

Cementoss had never looked so pitying as he had when he explained how to file certain forms.

It was horrible.

1B was glaring at Bakugou and Tetsutetsu. Saying if they had all stayed together when facing Yanagi's attack then Vlad wouldn't have been able to have been picked off.

And it didn't help that Bakugou had called Vlad King an extra.

He had to restrain Tetsutetsu for that.

He goes out to the common area for breakfast to see the rest of his team practically still asleep at the table.

How did things get this bad? It's only been a few hours and already they're exhausted.

Well except for Iida and Bakugou.

But he can't send just those two on patrol.

He'll need to sort out who is still good to go for patrol and who can get some more sleep and patrol tonight.

This is going to be a long day.

Shouta

Shouta never thought he would have to literally kidnap someone.

Especially not one of his former students. But of course if it had to be any of them this one will at least not hold a grudge.

He hopes.

He never thought about how easily his Underground hero skills would translate into criminal activity.

But lugging a struggling body into the warehouse with his capture weapon is ridiculous.

He feels like absolute shit when the black bag is removed from his victim's head and Nejire's tear filled eyes lock on him.

He has never been more grateful to step back into shadows and let Midoriya lead the show.

Not that that's who she sees. Of course not. Most of the kids are wearing the exact same outfit with small differences and the exact same mask and hood and all their masks have a voice changer in them. The only real way to tell them all apart is quirk or height.

He knows Hitoshi and Mic are in here as well remaining unseen and unknown.

Izuku

Izuku stares at Nejire's tear filled face. He feels bad. He's never wanted to scare anyone or make them uncomfortable. He wanted to save people with a smile.

Like All Might.

But he has to do this. They want to win.

He greets her and then rattles off her in exercise address that has her wide eyed and crying harder.

He twirls a gun and she immediately quiets down.

"Now I am sure you have a few questions. For instance, I am Rogue. I am in charge of the criminal element here. Now as for why you have been kidnapped. Sadly you have found yourself at the center of a soap opera."

"W…what do you mean!"

"Earlier today someone hired my team to kill you."

He watches her sniffle and shake a little.

"And at the same time someone hired me to kill the person who hired me to kill you."

She stares at him blinking away tears.

"W….what are you going to do?"

"Well…I was thinking about that. I could just kill you. Collect my money from the person who hired me then kill him and collect the second amount of money for his death."

"Please no!"

"Unfortunately, this second individual. The one not targeting you. Is paying us much less. So unless you can significantly sweeten the pot then I supposed this is the first step of me fulfilling my plan."

"W…wait please…I'll do anything! I don't want to die!"

"Unless you have something to offer then please make your peace with this." Izuku says. He just needs to push her a little more.

"Wait! Wait! Please uh…I…can be useful to you please. I don't want to die!"

Izuku acts like he's considering it.

He gets into her face.

"Are you prepared to do exactly what I ask?"

She whimpers and nods.

"Look me in the eyes. And agree with me."

She looks up at him.

"I will do exactly as you ask if it means I get to stay alive."

Izuku steps back from her.

"N…now what?" She asks softly, and Izuku pulls out a gun.

"Now I kill you." He says.

Bakugou

"Dammit Shitty hair! I can still fight. I'd only need 5 minutes to take down those stupid extras," Bakugou mutters to himself as he walks through the agency.

A few of the 1B extras are on the cameras and stuff but those extras had made it very clear that he wasn't welcome.

Stupid extras.

His hands keep popping. He's fucking angry. When did shitty Deku manage all this.

They barely saw the other team preparing for this.

And suddenly he pulls this shit out of his ass.

Dammit.

He sighs. And here he is stuck in here because Shitty hair decided he'd do night patrol so he should get more sleep.

Fuck that.

He'll just patrol on his own.

He's on one of the lower levels when he sees someone.

He doesn't know them.

It's not an extra from his class. Nor an extra from 1B.

Shit.

"HEY!" He shouts and she turns and Bakugou releases explosions to catapult himself at her.

She immediately screams and doesn't do anything else.

He tosses her into the interview rooms they have.

He'll contact Kirishima so he can give permission to question her.

He heads up to call Kirishima.

Chapter 23

Kirishima

"I…I'm sorry. You want me to believe that you broke into a hero agency in order to report a crime?" Kirishima says staring at the girl seated across from him.

He'd come back from patrol in order to question the person Bakugou caught sneaking around.

He thinks he saw her during the sports festival. From one of the business courses.

"Yes. I was walking through the park by the library. Someone bumped into me. A few blocks away I decided to buy some ice cream and that's when I realized that my wallet was missing. And then when I reported it to the police the officer on duty told me to tell you guys because the person I described matched a description of someone in a case you're handling." She says.

"What were you out of the lobby?"

"Because there was no one down there for me to take to and I wasn't gonna spend five hours waiting for a hero to come down so I could let someone know I was here. I also have a job one that I need to be on time for." She snaps.

"Alright alright. We are sorry. Please describe the person you saw."

"He was about my height, blonde hair. Wearing a tuxedo and he he has some pocket watches on it."

That sounds like Monoma.

"Thank you. I apologize for your treatment." Kirishima says removing the cuffs on her wrists.

She grumbles and leaves glaring at Bakugou.

Kirishima sighs and goes to Cementoss for advice.

Apparently Hero Agencies hire non heroes to do reception and administration.

Kirishima isn't so sure about trusting people from other courses right now. But he doesn't have a choice.

Clearly Midoriya planned for all of this. And he's a step ahead.

He needs all the heroes out there he can get. He can't have one focusing on the admin stuff.

He'll have to put out a job application.

He sends a message to Uraraka to do that. She's one of the friendliest of them all. So she can handle interviewing and stuff. And it'll let her feel useful while waiting for her quirk exhaustion to be over.

Izuku

Izuku whistles as he walks down the street to the bank where he's supposed to meet Mirio.

The sun is almost down. This will be his last criminal act of the day. He doesn't want to amass points too quickly. Otherwise Nedzu would end things on day one.

Killing Vlad King put them ahead of where he had planned to be.

So now he has to be careful.

He would hope that Team Stealth had avoided the rat's notice but that's unlikely.

There's a few documents sitting in his briefcase.

A little research had told him how much chaos this one act is gonna cause.

"Hey you! What are you doing out so late?"

Oh no that's Iida.

He turns his head to Ingenium.

Time to see how good Mic's makeup and acting lessons were.

"Good evening hero-san. I just got off late from work and was planning to meet with my bank manager to discuss personal matters. I

was unaware that there was a curfew in effect." He says.

Iida seems startled.

"I…um… there isn't a curfew. But why would someone be out so late?"

"It's not late Hero-san. The sun has only just gone down. And some people work at night. In hospitals, convenience stores or police stations. Or get off from work at night. While others try to get the last minute errands they couldn't get done during the day. Like me. I need to discuss business, unfortunately our schedules don't allow for a meeting on your schedule."

Izuku hopes that Iida has been doing this to every person he sees. One more item for media storm.

"Yamaza! There you are. I don't have all evening to spend waiting for you. If you want to discuss business then I suggest you hurry up." Mirio demands from the bank.

"Sorry Togata!" Izuku squeals our.

"Sorry Hero-san I must really be going!" He says and rushes off to head into the bank behind Mirio.

He sees Iida take off after another civilian.

"Hero team doesn't seem to be doing so good." Mirio says.

"They're still adjusting. They trained under a specific type of hero. Different from the ones we did."

Mirio smiles softly.

"Yeah, Sir was amazing. Have you decided whether or not you're going to take the job?"

"I have already completed it."

Mirio blinks.

"What?" Izuku checks to make sure the security cameras are off.

The blank red light tells him Mei was successful.

"My team has only so long to achieve certain missions. We cannot afford to waste time."

"Of course. I will pay you. Please come into my office." Mirio says unlock the door. Izuku follows the blonde inside and sits on the desk and watches Mirio sit on his side of the desk.

"Now since you are so prepared. I suppose you have evidence of her death?"

Izuku smiles softly.

"Of course."

He pulls out photos from his brief case.

Photos of Nejire covered in green paint, tied to a chair.

Mirio's eyes widen and he opens a drawer in his desk.

"I suppose that will suffice as proof. Here is you're payment," Mirio says and Izuku careful slips his gun from his briefcase.

Mirio rocks back in his seat from the force of the paint bullet hitting his stomach.

His mouth drops open and Izuku uses his feet to shove the chair away from the desk in case there is an alarm and he leaps over the desk and presses the trigger again, splattering paint all over Mirio's forehead.

Once he hears Snipe say Mirio is dead he drops to his knees.

"I'm so sorry!"

"No please Izuku you were great!" Mirio grins.

Izuku smiles softly.

He collects all the photos of Nejire and Tamaki in the place. He doesn't want this to link back to anything questionable.

Once done he collects the money and turns on his comm.

"Team Home Invasion. Did you remove any evidence?"

"We did Rogue." Shadow Monk's exhausted voice comes over the comm.

"Good. I just killed our benefactor. I'll be on my way back to base after I film evidence for Tamaki." Izuku says.

"Any orders for us?"

"No. I think we've done enough for the night. Tomorrow is another day."

He hears general agreement and he focuses on photographing the death.

His eyes keep dancing to the computer on his desk.

Hmmm.

"Artificer?"

"Yeah Rogue?"

"I'm gonna insert one of your remote drives into the computer. Can you hack their servers?"

"Ooooh going for another objective already?"

"Might as well."

"Go for it Rogue."

Izuku plugs in the drive and goes about cleaning and photographing.

He'll take this to Tamaki tomorrow. And collect his payment. Which will satisfy an objective.

The hacking servers is another.

He's lost count of points. Have they won already? It would be a shame to win on day one.

He honestly hadn't planned on those points from Vlad King's death.

He would really like for Operation Media Storm to happen. Even if they have already won. He put a lot of work into this and so did the rest of their team. And besides he doesn't want the hero team to fail. He just wants his team to win.

"All done Rogue. I decided to have a little fun and froze a few accounts."

Izuku winces. That's gonna be hard on some of his classmates. Especially if they didn't bring enough provisions.

"Good work Artificer. Get some sleep. You have your first field trip tomorrow."

"I'll sleep when you're back at base."

"Awww but I changed my mind about turning on early and was gonna hunt some heroes, see if there are any I can take out to make this more fun."

"Take out their recon. It'll make my job easier."

"Of course Artificer. I'll try depends on who's out patrolling." Izuku says and pulls his suit up from under his business clothes and strips off his business clothes and melds onto the shadows.

"Shadow Monk, if you're able would you join me?"

"Of course Rogue."

Time to play some hide and seek.

Chapter 24

Jirou

Look Jirou knows she isn't particularly built for combat. Her sound bursts can only go up to a certain volume, loud noises are horrible for her, and she's not exactly the bubbly sort of girl that makes it big in the hero industry.

But the one thing she has is her hearing. She can hear a pin drop from a mile away. She can hear gossip in other rooms.

She can hear everything.

So when she steps into the alley and hears nothing at all…she's scared.

She should be able to hear something.

But no. She doesn't hear anything.

Well more accurately he can't hear the heart beats of the people in the building next to her.

She can't hear a car on the street two blocks over.

She hears normally.

Her quirk isn't working.

And she's not dumb.

She knows what that means.

Her hand has barely twitched to activate her comm when she feels something hard hit her in the back of the head.

"Jirou, you're out. Please remain there until a faculty member comes to collect you," Snipe says in her comm.

Koda

Koda is quiet. He doesn't like attention. Doesn't like a lot of questions

or confrontation.

That's why he joined the hero team. Because the villain team was going to get a lot of teasing.

He didn't want to be teased.

So he joined the hero team.

Which is how he ended up in the park waiting for his animals to tell him if they found anything.

He sees a rat he had sent out coming back with an old take out container.

He opens his mouth to ask what it's doing with that but nothing comes out.

Or well it does. But it's his normal voice. Not the one that allows him to speak to animals.

Oh no.

The rat has run off now. The take out left behind.

He reaches to activate his comms but suddenly the take out container is exploding with paint.

"Koda," he hears Snipe say, "you've been eliminated."

"Please remain there until a faculty member comes to collect you."

He drops his hand.

Shouji

Shouji never thought about how terrifying he must look at night. With his arms open even his shadow looks scary.

He wishes it didn't.

Even his mouth is scary which is ridiculous. Kirishima has the same

type of teeth he does and he's never spoken about young kids being terrified of him.

But they are of Shouji…

He shakes his head. He has a job to do right now and that's to find the villains or a clue to where they are.

It's hard. Yeah he can hear people. But there are so many ways around that. Soundproofing would muffle it enough to make it impossible to identify the speakers. Writing, all he would be able to hear is the pen sounds.

This sucks.

And he has to listen to Bakugou rant every five minutes which is hard on his ears. Both normal and extra.

He wishes he had gone with Midoriya. Midoriya would have had him doing things outside of recon.

But it's too late now. And he's not sure he would take it. Betraying his team is too much for him.

He's so lost in thought that he doesn't keep his quirk up. It drops for a second and that's all that's needed for…a grenade to be thrown at him.

And suddenly everything is green.

"Shouji you've been killed. Please remain there until a faculty member comes to collect you."

Oh.

Midoriya looks at him with a sad expression.

"After this assignment, you and me, we're gonna experiment with your quirk." He says.

And Shouji smiles softly.

He'd like that.

Shiozaki

Hiding in the night is not the work of a hero. But Shiozaki had to rest during the day because her leader had kept her at the site of the fire and that unfortunately damaged her.

She has to spend the rest of the day drinking water to get her vines healthy again.

And after spending the day doing that she felt that she had to do something to help.

So she had taken night patrol.

She's sitting in school playground. Vines spread out through the city.

Her plan is simple.

Wait for someone to step on a vine and then grab them and bring them to her.

Simple.

It's late enough that anyone out would be a trouble maker so she doesn't have to be as worried about accidentally harming a civilian.

And then she feels it.

Someone stepping on one of her vines.

She wraps them up and reels them in.

It's rather dark.

One would think a playground would have better lighting.

But no.

Because of it though she can't see who she has caught.

It's too dark and they seem to have a large hat.

She brings them closer and her eyes widen.

There in her vines is a robotic civilian.

"I am so sorry!" She says releasing them and stepping closer to apologize.

The hat explodes green all over her.

She stares at it.

"Shiozaki, you've been eliminated. Please remain there until a faculty member comes to collect you,"

Shishida

Shishida sniffs the air around him.

Finally! Monoma's disgusting cologne. He really should be more considerate to those who have enhanced senses.

His cologne is incredibly strong.

He hates it.

But it doesn't matter.

He found one of the villains.

He'll bring him in and try can interrogate him for the location of the others.

Perfect.

He turns the corner into the alley that monoma is in.

Something wet splashes onto his face.

Oh god.

All he can smell is the cologne.

It's horrible.

He can't breathe.

He blinks it out of his eyes. And looks around for Monoma.

Where did he go?

A sound from above him has him looking up in time for two shoes to

crash into his face.

Damn.

He's going to have to go to the full extent of his transformation.

He doesn't even get the chance. Just as he's starting to transform, something rockets into his back and he jolts into a kick to the face from who he's now pretty sure isn't Monoma and he sees a gun being drawn and before he can do anything he's shot right between the eyes.

Or he would have been if he hadn't moved out of the way. He glances behind them to see a turret set up to throw rocks at him.

A well placed brick and the thing is toast.

Green pain stains the bricks innocently.

He reaches his full size and sees the person in front of him tense.

He still can't smell anything through the cologne but that's fine.

If Asui wasn't on the hero team he would think this was her which how much jumping this person is doing from wall to wall.

But aerial only works if your opponent can't reach you. And he's pretty tall.

One solid knock to the back and the person crashes into the trash cans. He takes a step forward only to feel something hit between his shoulder blades.

He turns to throw another brick at it. But it's not another turret. It's a person.

With a gun.

He touches his back.

It's stained black.

"Shishida you're out. Please remain there until a faculty member comes to collect you," Snipe says.

The mysterious arrival goes to where the person fell and checks them over.

"I'm fine."

"Problem Child…"

"Really! I just got the wind knocked out of me. I'll take it easy tomorrow." The one he fought says as the two exit the alley.

Before they vanish the shorter of the two turns to him.

"You did really well Shishida. You put up the most fight of anyone I went after tonight!" He says and the two disappear down another alley.

Chapter 25

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

Nemuri stares at the screen in shock.

How…

Like she knows after his opening stunt that Midoriya was playing this as unhinged as he can.

First off moving about in disguise is an amazing concept.

Then his handling of the Big Three's bad Hallmark movie plot. The arranging to get the best value out of the murder for hires.

It's amazing.

And poor Nejire…

She was on the edge of her seat with everyone else when Iida has stopped him outside the bank. Sure that one of his close friends would recognize his voice or his mannerisms. But Hizashi must have been teaching the kid all he knows.

Because Iida doesn't see it.

And then He and Shouta are running off through the city taking our literally everyone and getting more objectives.

And that's still only in one day.

And she has no idea about what this media storm is about.

God.

"Alright everyone! Time to review the newest events." Nedzu says.

"I'll start if off. I'm giving the villains some extra points." Snipe says.

"Oh?"

"Kids got some audacity to go prancing through the sites of their destruction, helping to clean no less!" Snip says.

"Yes. I did think that was a mighty interesting strategy."

He took out like six kids in the course of two hours!

"And managed to collect the rewards for two murders for hire."

And hacked into a bank server.

"And the freezing of those accounts…"

"It's only been one day and they have 34 points."

Nedzu twitches and shares a look with All Might.

"You have the tasks too high a point value." Vlad says.

"Did I? Or did the students do a poor job preventing acquisition?" Nedzu asks.

Vlad pouts.

"Alright let's evaluate them so far," Snipe says.

"Let's start with heroes first."

"Kirishima didn't offer condolences to any of the members of Class 1B. Nor did he attempt to diffuse the tension between them and the two other members of Vlad's team."

"But he was correct in not sending exhausted heroes out on patrol and allowing them to rest."

"He also asked Cementoss questions. Which is good. He can't volunteer extraneous information but he can answer questions."

"Not giving Bakugou something to do was a mistake. Even a small task would have been better."

"I agree he was the worst person to accidentally come across a trespasser."

"I'm scared about what her involvement means for media storm because she is one of my business students." Nemuri says.

"Yeah. I have a bad feeling if there's a plan with its own unique name," Snipe says.

"I think Kirishima handled the interview well. However, I also think he didn't ask her enough questions. Even the civilians have jobs in the city. They didn't even try to find out her job."

"But he was polite enough to her and he fixed the problems that the breach created."

Now on to the the night patrols.

"He made the best out of a bad situation. But he shouldn't have sent out one man teams for a night patrol. These kids haven't been taught night patrol yet…at least not very late night."

"Aizawa is going to have their hides," Snipe adds.

"Putting Uraraka on the case to locate a receptionist was a smart decision. She's on bed rest because of her quirk exhaustion. She needs to take it easy."

"But he also acknowledged how annoying that could be, especially for Uraraka who has shown herself to be incredibly competitive," Yagi adds.

"So giving her something to do will help combat that."

They nod.

"Bakugou's handling of the intruder left.much to be desired and I can't help but think it's going to bite them in the ass."

"And Iida's constant interrogation of people who were out just living life. They're going to be upset by being constantly questioned."

"I think it was clever orchestration by Midoriya. Somehow he chose the perfect person to pick pocket."

"I definitely think the night of sleep and not being in emergency mode definitely helped them gather themselves." Vlad says.

"Now let's move in to the villain team."

"Those disguises were amazing."

"And they allowed him to walk around the city without being recognized even when Iida stopped him."

"And he was completely stone faced as he was interrogated by Iida as

well."

"He was terrifying relaying their murder for hire options to Nejire."

"And they kidnapped her in broad daylight. And not a single person noticed."

"And then he just calmly shot Mirio and knew he had enough time to have Hatsume hack into the bank server. Earning him even more points."

"Is he going for some sort of record?"

"Perhaps?"

"Well tomorrow will certainly be interesting," Nedzu says as they prepare to sleep in shifts so they don't miss anything.

Chapter End Notes

> I need to stop posting a like 3 am. Because in the Google doc where the next 2 chapters are written I accidentally replaced this chapter with the last rp message I had copied in order to edit it. Thank got undo worked even after I left the Google doc to paste the chapter here.

Chapter 26

Kirishima

Kirishima is pale as he watches the "bodies" of his friends and teammates being brought in. They killed five more people.

How didn't they manage this and not get seen?

God.

"Kirishima, the Mayor is holding a memorial for Vlad King. To honor a fallen hero. He has asked that a few of us attend." Kaminari says.

Kirishima takes a breath.

"Right. I'll go with a few of the students from 1B. Bakugou and the rest of you guys should stick to your patrol schedules. Stick in teams of four and don't separate from your group. Pass that to the other teams. No unnecessary risks." Kirishima says.

"Of course," Kaminari says.

Kirishima sighs. How did this get so unmanly.

He doesn't know.

Who knew Midoriya was hiding such a devious mind.

He passes Uraraka on his way to gather some of the 1B students who he'll be going with.

"Hey Kiri we had a bunch of applicants for the position!" Uraraka says.

That's great. He can have Baku…maybe not.

"Uraraka can you interview them today? I know it's a lot of work but…"

"Of course I can!" She says.

"Thank you so much.

He heads off to let the others know the plan.

Hatsume

"Team Sharpshooter come in," Rogue's voice comes through her ear piece.

"Artificer and Shadow Monk here Rogue go ahead."

"Once you take out your target go ham. I want at least one other person dead."

"Any reason?" Shadow Monk asks.

"Mayhem will make a few more missions easier."

"You got it Rogue." Shadow Monk says.

"Are you alright to complete this mission?" Hatsume asks.

"Yeah kid. I've done harder on less sleep. Besides I have a break after this mission. He won't need me for a while."

"But what about operations Art Project and Watergate?"

"Those aren't till tonight and I'm on back up for those. Rogue is sending Paladin with Shadow Sorcerer."

"Okay if you're sure."

They get into position.

"Mimic, how is our secret weapon coming?"

"We delivered the secret weapon to the location, equipped with surveillance." Mimic says.

"Okay. Remember that place is gonna get pretty busy in a few minutes so get out of there."

"Yes sir."

Hatsume takes a breath and stares through her scope lining up the shot.

Whoever dressed up the robot that is supposed to act like the mayor is extremely obvious. Honestly he looks like any mayor on a children's

show.

But luckily that's not her target.

Her scope glides over the mayor and focuses on on the deputy mayor in the crowd.

He's dressed down. To avoid recognition. Positioned in the front of the crowd with a few other important people.

All of them are public officials.

And there's not a single security team member near her target.

Why would there be when the mayor is on stage speaking?

Shadow Monk is also peering through his sniper rifle. Goggles over his eyes and zoomed in on the crowd.

Hatsume is so excited because he asked if she would sell the license to make her eye baby to Powerloader or if not, would she be willinging to let him keep them.

A pro hero wanted her babies!

She shakes her self and focuses back on the deputy mayor.

They're aiming for two targets. If all goes well then they have two dead public officials.

If not they should manage to at least get one.

Hopefully they can also get Setsuna out of this game. Her speed with her quirk is out of this world and it makes her harder to kill.

Because even if they shoot a hand or an eye. She can regrow them because that's just her quirk.

Because apparently things like basic biology go out the window when quirks are involved.

Does she get therapy? Like come on regrowing limbs has to be traumatic. And that couldn't have been an easy quirk awakening.

Hatsume almost cackles at the idea of a four year old tripping and falling into pieces just to suddenly put herself back together again.

"Artificer focus," Shadow Monk says.

Hatsume shakes her head again and focuses.

"On three," she says and they take a breath and count.

"1…2…3," they say and pull the trigger.

Two paint splotches form on the backs of two different bots. One black and the other pink.

They take a second in the panic to cock the guns and Hatsume takes focus on Setsuna.

Before her limbs can fly off. A bright spot of pink forms on her chest.

She looks for another target.

A scale lands on the side of a building near them.

Is that scale shooter kid just blindly shooting his quirk at buildings?

Maybe?

She lets Shadow Monk deal with him.

She scans the group for one more person.

Ah! There she is!

Kodai is dangerous. No telling what she could embiggen or how she would use that strategically.

A wildcard is the worst possible thing for them.

Which means Hatsume only feels a little bad about the pink pain between the girl's eyes.

A similar black splotch is in the stomach of the scale shooter has them falling back.

They took care of business and even took down three more heroes.

Honestly they're being a little cruel. They don't need to kill this many people.

It has been the teachers idea. Over a late night meeting with cups of cocoa for all back during practice week. Shadow Monk and Bard had

talked to them. Told them they shouldn't hold back. Should kill and kill dirty. Because that's what villains do and these kids all need to be prepared because what if next time it isn't a fake villain with a paintball gun, but a real ones.

It had been a very somber moment for all of them. Thinking about the attacks they had already been through I'm addition to the ones they've yet to face and will face as heroes.

And Hatsume may not be gunning for heroics but her friends are.

Her friends. The villain team because that's who they are. They are all going to be heroes. Even Paladin regardless of if he has to claw his way up through the 6 year apprenticeship process or become a vigilante and use the reformation program for that.

And they will be fighting villains and saving lives and Hatsume prefers her babies to people. But these people aren't so bad.

So if she has to kill everyone of those hero team kids to remind them ALL of their own mortality, she'll do it.

They make it back to base and collapse on the floor.

"Welcome back Team Sharpshooter. Any trouble?"

"Three confirmed kills outside of mission parameters."

"Good work. Artificer and Shadow Monk get some sleep. I'll man the cameras. Monoma is taking care of Mission Hercules Mulligan. And I won't need Shadow Monk till tonight for backup." Rogue says.

"Aye aye boss."

Uraraka

Uraraka was very glad that Kirishima had given her something to do.

She was going insane! She never had to sit out so long.

But she guesses that's what happens when you suffer quirk exhaustion when in the real world instead of school.

She still doesn't have to like it.

But still drafting and putting out the job offer to the net had been a great distraction.

She had had to ask Cementoss how much was a typical wage and get permission from Kirishima but with that out of the way her and Froppy went about interviewing candidates.

The first boy hadn't had any experience and was questionable in his reliability.

The second girl hadn't even shown up. The third said that the hours were too long.

The fourth had immediately acted like he was better than them.

They didn't like that.

But the fifth was promising. They knew her. Knew her work ethic and they didn't have to worry about her not understanding the industry.

Plus she has the perfect personality for a receptionist! Friendly and helpful and approachable.

And she is trustworthy.

They spend a few minutes on the interview but at this point it's more of a formality. Kirishima had given them permission to hire the best candidate.

So that's what they're gonna do.

At the end of the interview they stand and shake hands with the newest addition to their hero agency.

"Welcome aboard Nejire!"

Chapter 27

Neito leans back into the shadows of the alley.

A few minutes ago Nejire went into the hero agency.

He still can't believe this.

Faking the pictures of her death had been easy. All they had to do was get some paint on her.

If Togata has noticed that the close that were stained with her "blood" were clothes that she would never wear that's his mistake.

Momo had been nice enough to make the clothes before they left to deal with their kidnapped Senpai.

So style hadn't really been a factor.

But it has worked out so nicely. They fake it for Togata and take his money and because Amajiki's offer was so low they were able to extort Nejire. Bargained her life in exchange for her spying on the hero team.

They don't really need her.

What with all the more creative thinkers out of the game leaving only the linear ones. But it was an objective and Monoma thinks that it can't hurt.

He's pretty sure Rogue is planning for a clean sweep. Or as many as they can because collecting favors is not easy going.

Oh well it's only day two. Plenty of time for them to do more.

He knows that soap opera of a hypothetical scenario with their Senpais was a test. There were many scenarios they could have done with just the stuff they were given.

Kill Togata and collect from Amajiki.

Kill Nejire and ignore Amajiki.

Kill both and not tell Amajiki about Nejire.

Or even the one they ended up going with. Faking Nejire's death,

killing Togata and then having her infiltrate the heroes.

Izuku had recognized Uraraka's writing style in the ad and had started cackling.

It had even scared Shadow Monk.

He can't wait till tomorrow when they get to do some of the tougher objectives. Rogue had been pouring over his notes on all of the hero team looking for perfect candidates for their plans.

He's actually kind of excited.

Paladin is actually pretty cool. Mimic hopes the missions he goes on are enough to showcase his ability and get him into the hero course.

But right now he's stuck waiting for Nejire go come out and give him a report on the facts of her new job.

Oh well.

He sees her come out at the same time that the few heroes run out.

Likely to deal with Artificer.

He listens as she tells him everything that was said. They'll check in against the camera they didn't tell her she's wearing.

Yanagi, Kendo, Momo and Hatsume agreed to watch it to make sure there was nothing the boys shouldn't see.

Once that's done Mimic leaves her on the street to her home.

Meanwhile he starts traversing the alley ways. They still need to sell a weapon illegally.

But to that they need to find a buyer.

How boring.

Either way he'll play his part.

Chapter 28

Hitoshi sighs as his arm drops against his side.

On the wall of City Hall is a picture of Rogue spray painted.

It had taken him forever to learn how to do this. Painstakingly practicing how to draw this.

Rogue had said it didn't need to be good. He just has to vandalize the building but Rogue is giving it his all in order to get them to victory and to give Hitoshi a chance to get into the hero course. Of course Hitoshi wants to give the same amount of energy.

Plus he wants to make up for all those things that he said at the sports festival. He's been around Rogue enough now to know that he was definitely wrong in some of his assumptions.

Maybe an apology at the end of this.

"Hey you!" Hitoshi turns. Shit it's Pikachu.

The electric quirk user steps further into the alley and Hitoshi puts his hands up.

As Pikachu walks past some trashcans a shadow emerges into the alley behind him and before he can even call in an arrest Kuroiro…he means shadow sorcerer shoots him in the back of the head and and with that the hero team is down one more person.

"That was quite exciting. Perhaps we could catch a few more spiders in this sort of trap."

"No. We still have a mission to complete. It's time for Phase 2."

As they move through the alleys Hitoshi calls in, "Rogue, Paladin here. Shadow Sorcerer and I were caught at the end of mission Art Project. We took out Pikachu and are returning to base to drop off the equipment before heading out for Project Watergate."

"No we're done for the night. The heroes are going to be swarming the place and I can't afford you all getting caught. I'll take care of Watergate during the wee hours."

"We're sorry Rogue."

"Don't be. Pikachu was incredibly far off his patrol route. I'll have to speak with Hurcules Mulligan to see if that was a fluke or a plan."

They return to base and Shadow Monk gives both of them a pat on the back.

"Hey it's okay it's only day two and Monoma performed a few favors. He just needs one more for that objective. Don't look to glum."

"But we've messed up your plan!"

"It's only the end of day two. I'll go out early this morning and do Watergate. Which will be plenty of time for Bard to do his thing tomorrow. You couldn't have know Kaminari would be so far from his route.

"Still feels shitty," Hitoshi mutters.

"I'm not losing a single member of this team. That was a goal I assigned myself on day one. Besides if I lose you now Paladin, day 4's events wouldn't be able to happen. You're instrumental to the mission."

"Thanks Rogue," he say softly.

"Of course Paladin. Now go to bed. You'll need to be rested tomorrow."

Hitoshi nods and heads to bed.

Chapter 29

Nemuri fights back laughter as Snipe bangs his head against the desk in front of him when he's filled in after his power nap.

"How…how of all the people she could have picked did Uraraka pick Midoriya's spy?" He groans.

"Because she was the best candidate they interviewed and if Midoriya hadn't gotten to her first then she would have been the best choice." Hound Dog says.

"How is he so good at this? I mean no one could have predicted that whole Big Three love corner," Nemuri says, she'd had to watch Mirio comfort Tamaki about hiring a hit on one of his partners. The quieter boy feeling guilty, so they let him have a little time with Mirio before the quieter one would have to go back to playing his role.

And poor Mirio's body still hasn't been found not by anyone. Despite it still being in his office.

"I suspect he would have simply gained a favor from someone and then used that to send them in as a spy," Yagi says.

"But Nejire was unique in that two members of the hero team would automatically trust her. And thus so would the rest of the team."

"Exactly."

"You know Yagi, you said this was to help Midoriya hone skills that you can't help him with but, you seem to understand his thought process pretty tell," Hound Dog says.

"I can recognize the logistics and strategy and understand how each decision is reached but my strength is not in that. I can explain Young Midoriya's thought process, same as I can for David, Melissa or Tsukauchi or could for Mirai. But I'm a straight forward person."

Hound Dog seems to settle at that.

"Okay so…any thoughts on his the teams are doing?"

"It was nice to see not everything go perfectly for the villain team. If they did everything perfectly then it couldn't be an exercise it would be an execution."

"Isn't that pretty much what this is anyway?"

"No…it's a lesson," Nemuri says.

"How so?"

"The students need to realize that everything they learn here is important. Because otherwise they'll die." Nemuri says.

"Why was Kaminari so far from his route?"

"I think he got lost. He has trouble retaining information. He does great when he can have the steps laid out before him but if you make him try to remember the steps that's where he messes up."

"He probably put a step in his patrol directions in a different order and got lost."

"None of them should have been patrolling alone but there shorthandes because of how many moves Midoriya made day one."

"But he should have called in for backup even if it was just once person in the alley.

"It was excellent teamwork with Kuroiro remaining hidden while Hitoshi took all the attention."

"And he did a good job keeping them all on track."

"And Midoriya did well in reassuring him even after the postponed second mission. A could leader doesn't beat up a team member for a mistake. He kept calm and was able to make Hitoshi feel better and gave him a chance to retry the objective."

"Speaking of…why are they breaking into a civilian's house tonight?"

"I don't know who's house is it?"

"It seems like it's the PD Commissioner's lawyer's home."

"Oh shit."

"Quite."

"What in god's name could he be doing in there."

"I suppose time will tell."

They watch Midoriya and Shinsou climb into the house and then few minutes later climb out with a few files.

Whatever's in those files, they probably mean nothing good.

Nemuri is sure if it as she watches then hand over the file and a flash drive to Hizashi.

That can only mean trouble.

Chapter 30

Monoma

Monoma yawns as he steps into the alleyways again. Honestly they're not hard to traverse they just take a lot of time.

Luckily he snagged Conguration's quirk on his way out of base and Paladin's on the purple boy's way back into base with Rogue.

He knows Bard has an important mission later today and that he's on standby while the others do their own mission.

He's not upset. He knows it's because he technically has a few objectives to try and fill out here.

The favors, which he's more than halfway done with.

Hopefully selling an illegal firearm.

And paying for information. Which he's a about to do.

All on top of meeting with Hercules Mulligan.

But back to the purchasing information.

The seedy individual he's talking to doesn't seem like the most useful informant, but he's cheap and they don't really need more information. They have all they need but for the objective he's willing to put up with it.

He hands over the cash he has made with Momo's quirk and the man quickly tells him about how women have been complaining about some hero abusing his position.

Well then, that's quite the interesting bit of information.

He thanks the guy and goes looking for a woman he had met yesterday.

Her apartment is horrible it livable and she's barely making ends meet.

He'd seen her yesterday and saw her groceries or lack thereof.

So he got Rogue's permission to give her some food.

Once that's dropped off he finds a robber and offers him a weapon. He gives the money from that sale to the woman as well. Counting as their last favor.

Now all that's left is to meet you with their Spy on the inside.

Nejire is sitting in the park when he arrives. Eating her lunch.

"So, anything to report?"

"Not really. A lot of the girls keep complaining about one of the boys, a few civilians too. But Kirishima keeps talking to him and believing him when he says he won't do it anymore."

"I've heard a little about that lately."

"I…is there something you can do? I…don't feel safe with him there with me or the other women."

"Like?"

"Anything. Get him fired. Captured. Killed. I don't know just away from us."

"I'm sure that can be arranged. It'd cost you."

"How much?"

"We have a bit of a distasteful task that we will have trouble performing. If we do this you do this task no questions asked."

"Fine."

Monoma leaves the conversation happy. Who knew he could get, blackmail for hire. Another objective out of the way.

He has a brief conference call with Rogue and Bard to plan out a few quick things while Hatsume hacks a few things for fhem and then returns to base for his much earned nap.

Hizashi

Hizashi is so excited! It's his first real missions since spying on the

heroes as they came in!

And what's better it all involves acting! He hasn't had to use his quirk once! Just like Rogue said!

He's so excited that he barely manages to duck back to the grocery produce stand as Ashido and Froppy walk by in patrol.

He's is disguise obviously but he knows people often times don't recognize him even if he just takes his hair down and weads normal clothes.

But Shouta's sweater is so comfy and it smells like him that he had to wear it today. So he's going with a professor sort of look.

Once they're past he buys an apple and eats it on the way to his meeting with two important people.

One is the Commissioner of the Police department and the other is the deputy commissioner. They're still feeling the effects of Shadow Monk and Artificer's work yesterday. They were next to the two officials who had been killed.

Poor boys he has English with some of them.

He sees the two arrive and startle for a moment trying to place him.

But they won't.

"Welcome. Thank you for agreeing to meet with me."

"Of course. It's not every day that we receive a call directly to our homes telling us about evidence to a crime."

"Of course not. But due to the…nature of this situation I thought it best to go to the top."

"Of course."

"You see I have it on good Authority that a certain hero in our city has been harassing both his female coworkers and civilians. Going so far as far as to abuse his authority."

"You want us to go after a hero?" The Deputy Commissioner asks eating his food.

"Why not? That's four job? To seek out and stop villain right?"

"I am sorry but we can't take the word of…"

"Photographs of him doing so. Video of him as well. As well as written accounts from a few victims."

He hands the file of documents over. His glove almost snagging on it.

"Be that as it may…"

"Oh and if you refuse to look into this I'll expose this evidence from your Lawyer's house. A mistress, really. Having an affair is so cliche don't you think?" He says looking at the Commissioner.

The man is wide eyed.

Hizashi drops their evidence of that tidbit ontop of the harassment case file.

"Do you really think I'm going to sit here and let you blackmail the police department!" The Deputy demands.

"Yes," Hizashi says showing him the mirror in his compact that shows his black tongue. Poison is amazing.

"As you can see I am very serious about this. I trust you won't disappoint?"

"N…no sir."

Hizashi nods and heads off the door. Glad they could understand each other.

Izuku

"Okay everyone it's fine to go," he says staring up at the office building.

Time to get serious.

A chorus of agreement sounds from around him.

He smiles.

Time to go.

He gives the signal to go.

Chapter 31

Izuku

Izuku takes a breath as he double checks they everyone that's here is supposed to be here.

"Rogue, Bard just got back from his mission. He's waiting on standby with Mimic and Paladin should you need reinforcements," Artificer says.

"Copy Artificer we're arriving on location now."

He takes a breath and clicks the ear piece on again.

"Team Now You See Me, are you in position?"

"Yes sir."

"Alright we go on five. Remember timing is key here."

"We know Rogue."

"Spore Druid remember, get them all once we enter."

"1…2…3…4…5 go."

The group of students rush the bank.

It's the same bank they robbed the other day. But this time they're not after money.

Izuku watches as Spore Druid releases her sleeping spores into the air.

Awase comes and welds the doors shut. And then metal sheets from Momo over the windows and glass.

He can see a few people still moving and one in particular reaching for the silent alarm.

Izuku steps in his way.

"No. Sorry but we can't invite the guests of honor quite yet," he says and when the man finally passed out he drags him away over to the rest of the civilians.

Right up against the door.

That should take care of Kacchan and Kirishima and Tetsutetsu. They won't come crashing in hopefully.

He sets up a few more things before he finally presses the button.

Hopefully they'll be able to get the full 5 objectives that they're shooting for.

"Mimic, you initiated Hercules Mulligan's exchange correct?"

"Yeah boss."

Good.

"Artificer, it's time for Phase 2."

"On it!"

It's time to start the show.

Uraraka

Uraraka is just walking into the break room in the agency when she spots Nejire at the coffee pot.

"Nejire?"

"Oh hey Uraraka! Sorry. I'm stealing some coffee. The machine downstairs isn't working for some reason and I didn't want to bother anyone about a new one," Nejire says.

"Oh! Of course! Don't worry about it! It's just coffee. Some of us can't even drink it!" She says.

"Thanks Uraraka!" She says.

"No problem! You can come up for more any time!" She says and leaves Nejire to get her own coffee.

Nejire

Nejire smiles and pours the contents of the vial into the coffee pot.

She doesn't particularly want to do this next part but…she has to.

She pours herself a cup and quickly gulps it down.

It should be a while before the symptoms start to show.

Izuku

He wasn't sure who Kirishima would send.

Kacchan would be a good choice, if the blonde wasn't a loose cannon in every sense of the word.

Definitely not the right choice for a hostage negotiation.

Nor would Tetsutetsu be a good choice either.

Manga wouldn't work well…well he would be a good supper person but Manga decides to sit out the exercise. Something about fighting friends to this degree didn't sit right with the other boy. That's fine.

One less person for the heroes.

Of course they sent Mina. She's one of the most social of class 1A. And…oh they sent Iida, Tsu, and Sero for capture and…oh Cementoss for containment.

How nice. But there was one hero he was hoping would come. Otherwise a few of their objectives will be impossible to get.

"Shadow Monk?"

"So far, the plan is to distract you at the front while Hagakure and Mineta sneak in the back. Her to give Intel and Mineta to restrain you all."

Oh good. His target is here.

"Team Car Trunk are you there?"

"We're here," comes Eldritch Knight's voice.

Good. Be ready with your part of the plan.

"We will be. I must say this steet looks nicer than it did the night I

made the trash storm."

The line cuts off which signals they're done talking and he moves into position.

"Remember the plan." He says.

"Yes boss." They say just as the phone in the bank rings.

He lets it ring a few more times before finally picking it up.

"Hello?"

"Hi! I would love to talk to whoever is in charge!" Mina's voice comes over the line.

"Sorry the boss isn't here today. Maybe try another day."

The heroes don't need to know he's here. Because then Kacchan will come. And he doesn't want that. Not yet.

He won't play with Kacchan till day 5. When he collects the rest of his objectives.

Izuku smiles a little. It's all been going according to plan thus far.

But he is not going to get cocky.

"Oh that's a shame. Who am I speaking with?"

"Does it matter?"

"Well yeah! I can't talk to say Todoroki the same way I would talk to Momo!" Mina says.

"Do I sound like Todoroki or Momo?"

"Well no you're changing your voice though! So it could be one of them."

She's honestly a good distraction. Adept at talking about everything and nothing at the same time.

'Team car trunk is making their move' Momo signs to him and he nods.

"How about we speed this up. Our boss wants a million dollars. You

have one hour before we start killing hostages. Chop chop heroes." He says and hands up.

"Genasi be ready to go as soon as Car Trunk goes."

Shouto nods.

"Shadow Monk?"

"They're getting into position to provide support once the infiltration team enters the building. Cementoss is building a perimeter, he'll be too far away to help once you initiate."

"And Sero?"

"He had the unfortunate event of landing on the same roof I'm on. I took him out."

"Eldritch Knight?"

"We are ready on three."

Izuku nods.

"One."

"Two."

"Three."

He doesn't need the comms to hear the screaming when team car trunk makes their move. And neither does Shouto.

Before the scream is finished ice shoots under the door and out over the sidewalk.

Leeching over the heroes in the front of the building.

He sees the ice and cold immediately take effect on Tsu. The girl passing out.

Iida is pretty much stuck. And Mina is trying to get out of the ice with her acid.

"Who taught the invisible girl to fight? She gave me a concussion before I was able to shoot her." Comes Paladin's angry voice over comms.

"Any other injuries?"

"Just minor ones I think. I am bleeding though!"

"It's fine. I have a plan in place for injuries. He says.

He steps outside and before Mina can call in backup he shoots her in the head and takes her comm. He does the same for Iida but leaves him alive, he considers Tsu carefully before shrugging and shooting the sleeping girl.

He's seen Tsu after hibernation. She's always hungry and anxious.

No reason to force her to deal with that and the rest of the game as well.

Then he steps back inside.

"Car Trunk, status?"

"Already on our way out of here."

"Team Now You See Me?"

"Ready when you are boss!"

Izuku nods.

"Alright everyone in the vault it's time to go," he says. And puts on one of the hero comms.

He can hear Kirishima and Kacchan ranting in the background.

He smirks.

Perfect. He waits till he's the last one. Then says, "Come play Kacchan."

Not wanting to listen to the blonde's ranting he drops both hero comms and crushes them under his boot.

"Artifice. Phase 3."

"On it boss," She says and he steps into the vault, closing it behind him.

Kirishima

"Bakugou, slow down. Don't go into this with a hot head. It isn't manly!"

"Shut up shitty hair. That stupid Deku is playing games. I'm going to remind him that this isn't a game!" Bakugou shouts.

"We need a plan!"

"I have a plan. I'm going to bust in there and kill Deku. Then this stupid game will be over.

Kirishima sighs as he runs after Bakugou. Knowing he won't get through to the boy.

He watches as the bank comes into view and Bakugou forces himself faster.

He watches the boy blast past the still stuck Iida and the two frozen "corpses" of their teammates and then follows Bakugou through the hole in the door the blonde made.

He doesn't see anything. Where are the criminals? Where are the civilians? Iida had said something about a time limit and killing hostages…

"Where is everyone?" Kirishima asks.

"I don't know shitty hair I…" Bakugou stops talking as he turns around to look at Kirishima. His face is unreadable as he stares at something behind him.

With a sinking feeling he turns to look.

Buried under rubble are several civilian bots, crushed. And Chalk outlines of where the human ones were placed. At least the human Civilians were moved away from where they would likely have been hurt or injured. But that chalk must mean that was their official location.

"Oh god…that's 20 bodies."

"Bakugou…"

Both boys are in shock, so it's understandable that neither notices the tiny red dot blinking on the security camera that had once been blank.

Izuku

"Perfect," Izuku says, turning away from the computer screen.

"You know what to do with this right Artificer?"

"Of course I do Rogue."

"Good."

He leaves her to her task and heads to where the others are.

They made it back to the base completely fine.

And the others are resting up from that last mission.

Paladin is wincing as Mic cleans the wound on his face.

"Is he okay?" Izuku asks.

"He might have a small fracture…I'm doing the best I can without an x-ray machine," Mic says.

"You're doing wonderfully Mr. Mic."

"I'm fine Boss. Don't worry about me." Hitoshi says.

"Don't worry, I have a plan that will help with your injury. Do you think you can make it to tomorrow?"

"Yeah, the pain relievers are working wonders." The purple boy says.

"Okay. Don't worry you'll be right as rain tomorrow."

"Good, wouldn't want to miss our big moment," Hitoshi says.

"Never."

"But get some rest, the only people needed for this next mission are me, Bard, and Shadow Monk with Paladin on standby as a last option."

"Aye aye Boss!" They all chorus.

Let Phase 4 of this plan begin.

Chapter 32

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

Izuku doesn't particularly want to do this next step. But he needs the objectives this will provide as well as the snowball effect that will follow.

He's the villain but there are some things he just doesn't want to have to do.

When he opens the door to the warehouse he can already hear Mineta screaming.

Maybe they should have gagged him?

He signs to his two teachers to get out of sight.

He doesn't want Mineta to know who his teacher teammates are.

No reason to ruin the surprise yet.

He steps forward and yanks off the canvas sake over his head.

Mineta's scream cuts off as he stares ahead at Izuku.

"Good morning," he sings, it's technically afternoon but he doesn't need to know what time it is.

Izuku kept his mask on for this.

"W…what do you want?"

"I want to discuss a transaction," he says, the idea of if leaving a poor taste in his mouth.

"What sort of transaction?"

"I want to hear all about yours escapades with the ladies. Being a pro hero like yourself means you have to have a few stories to tell."

Izuku really doesn't want to hear about any of this. It's going to be disgusting he knows. But he can use this information for the final piece of operation media storm.

And he really needs to set that in motion tonight.

"And what do I get if I do?"

"You get to live."

This is as close to bribery as he's willing to get. Nedzu better count this.

He zones out as Mineta immediately starts to talk about women like they're objects. Just because Mineta needs do talk doesn't mean Izuku needs to listen.

He focuses enough to not ruin the camera shot though. He's going to be edited out but that doesn't mean he has to make Mei's job harder.

Mineta babbles on and on and on about all the women who he works with, the women on the villain team and even some of the civilians he has seen running around.

He didn't need to do this part. Media Storm has plenty of information as is.

But the fact that Mineta can be so disrespectful of the position he has the privilege of having irks him. Besides, all the teachers need to do is see him act like this and that it's not an accident or misunderstanding and Mineta is out of 1A.

And well it sucks to have an empty seat in class, doesn't it? And on day 5 he'll be showing off the skills of someone who would be happy to fill that seat.

This might be a simulation but his schemes don't stop at the walls of this training ground.

Finally Mineta stops talking and Izuke watched the little light on the camera blink out.

"Thank you Mineta," he says.

"So you're going to let me go now right?" He asks hopefully.

Izuku chuckles.

"Foolish hero, that was not our deal." He says with a smirk and pulls the canvas back over the boy's head.

Mic and Aizawa materialize out of the shadows and drags him deeper into the factory that this warehouse is connected to.

He'd had Land Druid, Earth Genasi, and Conjugation make a buried containment unit to scare Mineta into confessing but never actually planned to use it.

Nedzu probably wouldn't let him bury someone alive.

Probably…

He shakes his head and heads back to base. The others are asleep when he gets there except for Mei.

"Artificer, we're a go for Operation Media Storm."

She nods and starts to bring up some more videos and papers as well as an email they've had drafted since they learned the profession of one of the living citizens in the city.

Izuku hopes the heroes can handle the eyes of the world upon them.

Clicking send feels final in a way it really shouldn't.

But it does feel good.

Chapter End Notes

Midoriya - Mastermind Rogue
Mei - Artificer
Hitoshi - Paladin
Monoma - Mimic
Todoroki - Genasi
Momo - Conjuration
Aizawa - shadow Monk
Mic - Bard
Komori - Spores druid
Kendo - open hand monk
Kaibara - land druid
Honenuki - earth Genasi
Awase - Mending
Yanagi - eldritch knight
Pony - gunslinger
Kuroiro - shadow sorcerer

Chapter 33

Kirishima is just sitting down to organize the patrols. It's gotten harder and harder to figure out how to split people up as his team gets smaller and smaller.

He sighs.

Right now it's down to groups of two.

Somehow multiple people got stomach bugs so he had to call in for a Nurse. Recovery Girl said she would come in tomorrow to examine them. Which is good, he's glad they're going to be looked at, but it also makes it harder to schedule enough patrols to cover the city.

He sighs.

Morale took a nosedive and he doesn't know how to lift it. Mina and Hagakure were the ones that lifted the team when they were down and he just lost both of them in what should have been a simple infiltration mission.

And Bakugou hasn't come out of his room since the bank.

The amount of damage that occured was more than even the agency's bank account could handle, even if it hadn't been frozen.

Because that also apparently happened. They're lucky payroll occured right before it was frozen. But it still sucks and they're getting low on food and supplies.

Kirishima sighs and settles in for a long night of trying to figure out how he's going to handle Midoriya.

He didn't think the green haired boy would have been this good at being the villain.

"Hey boss…you might want to see this." One of the 1B boys says and Kirishima turns to look at what they're watching.

It's the news.

It's about them.

Kirishima walks close to the TV.

It's the woman who came up here when they didn't have a front desk attendant.

His mouth goes dry.

She's reporting about them.

"Good evening everyone. My name is Kana Tokuda of Class 3I. And have I got a scoop for you," she says and waves a hand at a screen and it turns on and starts to play a clip.

It's of the bank.

Kirishima can see the hostages placed up against the wall. Or the chalk lines for the live ones.

His stomach sinks.

He knows what he's about to see.

Sure enough he watches as Bakugou blows through the baracaded wall, crushing the civilians with rubble.

Kirishima feels sick.

Then he watches himself follow into the bank.

He sees Bakugou turn away from the camera to speak, there's no sound, and the moment they both realize what happened.

Then he watches Bakugou rush out of the bank.

But the camera doesn't the slight shake to Bakugou's shoulders. The horror on his face. It doesn't show his reaction.

"This isn't the first time that the hero named King Explosion Murder," the anchor's face scrunches up, "as been too aggressive in the carrying out of his duties."

She waves her hand again and the video shifts to that day she had come into the agency. They follow her as she waits to speak to someone. Then on her search for someone to speak to. Ending with Bakugou discovering her, launching at her, and her screaming.

From the angle of the camera it must be in her necklace or the hem of her shirt.

"Nor is it the first time a member of the UA agency has been…zealous in their duties." She says.

Another wave of the hand and he's suddenly watching Iida interrogating every civilian in the street on his twilight patrol and then his questioning of who he thinks must be Tokuda.

He appreciates Iida's desire to gather information. But he's treating every citizen like they're commiting a crime. And he can already see in the video some of them are already offended.

"Nor is it the first wrong doing by a member of the agency."

She waves her hand to show a video of several of his teammates not doing their patrols, general incompetence, and then Mineta bragging about the women on their team, about the women he's seen on patrol and what he wants to do to them.

It's definitely not manly. But also definitely taken after his capture.

Which means Midoriya sent this to her.

Come to think of it…it was a pickpocketing by Monoma who had sent her to their agency that first time to be attacked by Bakugou…Did Midoriya plan all of this?

Nah there's no way.

Kirishima sinks into his spot more and more as the video continues to play. Before finally stopping.

Only for paperwork to fill her screen.

"Upon further investigation into the misconduct of the hero known as Grape Juice, found files detailing incidents involving him and female staff and civilians. This information was apparently in the desks of both the Police Commissioner and the Deputy Police Commissioner. Only further investigation will reveal how long they have know about the actions of the supposed hero and whether this is suggestive of an attempted cover up on behalf of the police or the UA Hero Agency."

Kirishima feels ill.

"One think for sure is that the city's faith and trust in both the Police and the heroes has been shaken."

She takes a moment then clears her throat.

"Which leaves us with the question of…if we can't trust on the heroes or the police, then who can we trust?"

The program ends and Kirishima's head is spinning…or is that the room?

"Boss?"

Kirishima can't move his head to look at him.

He just doesn't know what to do.

Chapter 34

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

The teachers in the observation booth stare at their screens.

How much of this had Midoriya actually planned?

Monoma stealing Tokuda's wallet sent her to the police, who sent her to the pros.

That obviously was planned.

But there is no way he could have known that one, the agency had no receptionist, two Bakugou would be there, and three that he would be the one to discover her.

Nor could they have figured out that Iida would be so abrasive during twilight patrols. So that's another coincidence that worked in their favor.

Everyone knows Mineta is a pervert so it would surprise no one that he acted as normal in the simulation so that part could be predicted.

So could Bakugou's explosive entrance at the bank. And hadn't that been horrifying to watch.

The file being given to the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner had been a clever plan. It was given to them the morning of right before the bank. Which meant there had been no time to adequately hide it.

So when Tokuda had found the files it was easy to predict she would reach one of two different but wrong conclusions.

The first being that the Commissioner was trying to cover it up implying corruption in at least the department.

The second being the police were investigating it for a while now, implying corruption in the agency.

Either assumption would have riled up the public.

It was terrifying how much Midoriya had pulled all this together. And

with the video confession they have enough to expell Mineta. And that opens a seat in 1A and it just so happens that the Gen Ed student who made it to the finals happens to be wiping the floor with the hero team as a member of the villain team.

"Well then I suppose we should discuss all that happened today."

"The heroes learned a very valuable lesson in what the media can do for or to their careers." Vlad says.

"I'm terrified to know just how much of this web Midoriya had planned coming in," Nemuri says.

"According to his book young Midoriya knew that Bakugou would blast through the wall so he knew that the civilians would die. He also knows Mineta well enough to plan for that…he didn't plan on her trespassing or running into Bakugou but he supposed that if she was being questioned at some point he would be abrasive."

"Ah so he created circumstances that he knew would be bad if they acted they way they normally do. It was designed that if at least one person acted differently than he assumed it wouldn't work as well as it did. I must admit I never knew Midoriya was this clever."

"This is why he only let you bet a certain amount isn't it."

"Yes. However my allowed amount was a bit lower than I actually bet."

"Why?"

"Midoriya-san asked me to place part of a bet for her."

"Really?" Nemuri asks.

"Yes. She is confident they he will win. And she believes her earnings from the bet will make a nice graduation gift for the boy. It will definitely help start the boy off. As we know new sidekicks and heroes make much less than those of us who have been in the industry for years."

"Why not just give him the money?"

"Because the boy wouldn't accept it if he didn't earn it. No to mention it would be highly inappropriate as his teacher. I have already been interrogated by Aizawa for how often he and I speak alone. I do not

want anyone else to think I was being untoward with the boy."

Nemuri bursts out laughing.

"Aizawa thought you were…"

"Somewhat. I think he thought I was most likely poaching him seeing as our quirks were similar at the start of the year or manipulating him in some way to boost my own popularity. And I, unfortunately, can see how some of my behavior could arouse the suspicions of someone as protective as Aizawa."

"I think you mean paranoid."

"No. I like protective. I mean with the press break in, the USJ, the mall, the training camp, and the overhaul raid…I can understand why he would be concerned about his students. They are trouble magnets. Especially young Midoriya."

"You've got me there."

"As riveting as this gossip is. Let us discuss the events of today." Nedzu says.

"I was very impressed with the plan that Mic came up with for how to show he was serious about the investigation into Mineta. I don't believe I have ever seen him so serious about something. I hardly recognized him."

"Yeah he's really good at that."

"I'm impressed by their planning. They managed to get the reports about Mineta into the offices of the highest officials. Thereby implying either corruption or incompetence."

"And at this rate they can't even arrest Midoriya. They've never see his face. There's no way to connect him to quirks that have been seen."

"They still don't know who the villains have from the staff. Aizawa was smart to take out Sero. Him as the element of surprise a stroke of genius."

"I don't think Aizawa is their secret whammy," Nemuri says.

"How so?"

"It has to be Hizashi. People forget this because he wants them to. But

he was class president and ranked first in class. He's not just loud. He's incredibly intelligent. Even smarter than Aizawa. He's a skilled manipulator who understands people. If there is threat he's the bigger one."

"I liked how he was keeping Moral going. When Shinsou felt like he had let Midoriya down he didn't berate the boy. Didn't get passive aggressive. He is treating this team like people. And it's binding them closer together," Recovery Girl says.

"Right morale is very important! If they lose the drive to fight then his plans are useless."

"Precisely. And he genuinely cares about their health and safety. No risks. No bending. He insisted Shinsou return to base and made sure the boy was okay."

"On that note. He performed two biological agent attacks just to be safe." Snipe says.

"Ah yes…he did. Young Midoriya says that the one that was unleashed within the agency is a mild stomach flu. He said he received the sample from your office," Yagi says to Recovery Girl.

"Sneaky boy."

"Chiyo you should get some rest. Your visit to their agency that they requested was approved."

She clucks her tongue.

"My Quirk doesn't work on the flu."

"Yes, but this is supposed to be a realistic simulation. You would still go. Exam them. And tell them your quirk will not help them," Nedzu says grinning.

She nods and goes to her room to rest.

"My god how is Midoriya so good at all of this?" Vlad asks.

"Just what have you been teaching him Yagi?"

"He came to me like that. Why do you think I reached out to Nighteye about him? His skills in those areas far exceed mine. As I have been saying!"

Nemuri giggles. Who thought the symbol of piece could be easy to tease?

"Then where did it come from? Because I'll be completely honest, I didn't see him being this good. All Might's biased," Snipe says.

"It may be due to the fact that his intelligence has had years to develop. And that he actively tried to improve his abilities during that time."

"But would a kid really focus on skills like this when the have a quirk like his? We know how kids will amazing quirks are treated in public school. They're given the best of the best of everything. Including quirk counselors."

"Ah! You see…u…" Yagi looks to Nedzu for help.

"Midoriya was a late bloomer."

"Poor kid. Like had to be hard. My parents thought I was Quirkless for a bit because what parent let's their kid shoot things. Took forever to realize I had a quirk, I just didn't have access to items to use it on."

"I'm sorta scared to see what he'll go next. What objectives are even left?"

"Planting a bomb, destroy Hero HQ, make a rousing villain speech, kill the head of the hero team, and kill the heroes second in command," Yagi says then adds, "young Midoriya seems to be right on schedule it would seem."

The other pros tense.

He has this all planned out! Every detail and he hasn't been wrong.

"And he still has two days to get through them…" Snipe trails off.

They all take a collective deep breath.

A movement on the camera has them all looking at the screens but it's just Midoriya getting a glass of water.

None of them notice the look he gives the faucet and specifically the water coming from it.

Chapter End Notes

Updates might be slowing down for a bit. I have my Bar exam next week. And I'll be starting my job search as well. So I'm going to be a busy little bee.

Plus I'm also working out a dadmic plot bunny. (The first chapter might be up tonight. Idk yet)

Chapter 35

Chiyo

Chiyo Shuzenji, loves her job, it's true. Her quirk helps people and as a little girl that's all she's ever wanted to do.

It's why when she retired from pro heroics she took a job in medicine.

She knows that she was harsh on Midoriya…but he needed to understand that actions have consequences. She's seen too many students, not just from UA but other schools, go out into the world forgetting the school nurse won't be there to help them anymore.

You can't save someone if you can't save yourself. She had to break Midoriya out of the mindset Toshinori had accidently nurtured in him, to do whatever it takes to save the day.

But she knows she went about it the wrong way. She knows that now.

She'll have to find another way.

But for now she has to help these reckless kids with this stupid exercise.

She walks in from the same way the kids had entered.

It's ridiculously crowded.

Why is it so crowded?

She gets closer to the Headquarters and the crowd gets thicker.

She tried listening.

"Hold those heroes accountable!"

"Arrest the villain!"

"Charge Lord Explosion Murder!"

"Charge Grape Juice."

There are picket signs all over the place and people chanting.

It's a protest. The people are demanding action be taken for what has

happened.

She sighs.

She is going to have to fight her way in through the crowd because the headquarters had not included alternative ways to enter or exit.

Pushing through people to make her way to the door at least they don't jostle her too much.

Until someone bangs into her shoulder and then grabs her arm to steady her.

"I am so sorry," the boy says and gives her arm another steadying pat and then he disappears into the crowd.

Chiyo starts to follow because there's something not right.

"Ah Recovery Girl thank you for coming," a voice says and she turns to see Iida coming down the steps from the Agency. Immediately the crowd starts booing and yelling.

She pushes the strange boy from her mind as she hurries into the agency to do her job and see if she can offer them any help.

Monoma

Monoma walks through the tunnel that leads to their their base.

He's not running but he is speeding. Midoriya gives him a nod from where he's looking over a map with Present Mic.

He thinks it might be a map of the sewers.

Huh.

Monoma decides that's need to know and right now he doesn't need to or want to know.

"Did operation Nurse Joy work?" Izuku asks.

"Yeah. Now where is my patient?" Monoma asks.

"Unfortunately he's over here," comes Hitoshi's voice.

His head is bandaged from where he'd been bleeding from the hit Hagakure got on him.

Monoma goes over to him and kisses his hand.

After a moment Hitoshi yawns and removes the bandage to show the healed injury.

"Thanks Monoma."

"Don't mention it. Does anyone need healing? I have like 1 minute of this left."

"No. I think Hitoshi is the only one who got hit."

Monoma nods.

"So…what now?" Awase asks.

"Hatsume, I have something I want to show you and then I might need the prep team with us. And the material team."

"Yeah. Of course."

"What about the rest of us?"

"Go out and have some fun. Rile up the public, annoy the heroes. Kill indiscriminately. But you know who to leave alive for day five. Paladin and Shadow Monk I need you to stay here. You're necessary for tomorrow's mission."

They all share a look and Monoma heads over to see what the green haired boy has thought up now.

"Okay. Time to discuss my plan."

They sit down and Izuku pulls out his plans and Izuku starts to talk about his idea.

"So…your idea is…sprinklers?"

"Yes!"

The three of them share a look while Izuku practically buzzes.

"Okay…explain the plan to me ten million." Hatsume says examining the plans.

Izuku sits back down and starts to explain.

By the end, things have finally become clear.

And Monoma has to say that this plan makes even more sense than it has been beforehand

It's going to be fun.

Chapter 36

Izuku looks around the room in the abandoned warehouse they decided to set up in this time.

It's perfect. High ceilings on each floor.

Sturdy.

And big.

Izuku is helping Monoma position the giant pieces of mirror around the area.

While Awase welds the items Momo and Hatsume are making for him in the spots Izuku wants them.

He honestly wonders if he is going too far.

Someone will definitely be leaving this warehouse with at least one person demanding they seek therapy.

The other members of his team are out causing general mayhem.

Which is good.

Hopefully they can pick off a few more heroes.

He is confident that their part of the plan will go off without a hitch. But that doesn't mean he would mind there being a few less people on the opposing team.

Everything needs to run like clockwork if he wants them to win.

Nedzu might even have to add another objective after this. It's honestly surprising that it wasn't already up there.

Afterall it's honestly the only way to really win.

Izuku shakes his head and positions the next mirror while Awase rushes over to weld it in place and then goes back to securing the speaker.

Team digger has their own job to do.

He just heard back from Shouto that he took out Tokoyami and

Kamakiri he thinks is the 1B boy Shouto didn't know the name of.

Honestly he might want to talk to Kirishima about comparability. Aoyama and Tokoyami might be friends but they absolutely can't fight together.

Shouto barely had to do anything Aoyama took out Dark Shadow and then Shouto was able to shoot them.

But Izuku is not going to complain. He was worried about leaving those two in. Both of them can take on multiple opponents at one time.

Not good for what he has planned for tomorrow.

He sighs and passes along the new of the three new deaths over the comm.

There's only one more…sticky bit to their plan.

Izuku is kinda hoping someone will get lucky and kill one other hero.

Heck his plan can even withstand Iida but this person makes the best plan hard.

They have taken out most of their restraining and capture heroes. Otherwise they have know way to keep enough of them occupied to prevent them from escaping.

"Boss, you seem worried. Who do you need us to take out?" Monoma says.

"Bondo. His quirk worries me. He'd be too useful at restraining us."

"Then why not use him as the cue for plan haunted house?"

"That could help," Izuku says and they make their way towards the back of the warehouse.

He goes through the plan for tomorrow in his head. Revising it as he needs to. Members of his team come and go from the room as they work on last minute preparations.

He sets up the turrets he wanted to put up.

Then he sets up the defense mechanisms. He has to be careful about how they handle this particular operation.

After all they'll be dealing with the one person who won't underestimate them.

He is startlesd out of his thoughts when he hears from his comm that Iida and Bondo we're taken out.

He revises his plan again. Looks like they'll need a new target to kick things off.

Oh well. At least the clip of Iida getting stuck in Bondo's glue will be funny.

That's a good enough number of students out of the game.

That should be enough for their plans.

"Rogue here. All members back to base. We have a big day tomorrow…Mimic we are adjusting to plan Haunted House OU. So give Hercules Mulligan her orders, then get back here."

Monoma had left to do some last minute double checks for him. Because he could carry all the quirks he'd need with him. Instead of them having to send a bigger team to do last checks.

He hopes he's done enough to finish this.

He has put too much into winning this.

For the friend his teachers lost.

For Sir Nighteye who All Might swears would be impressed.

For his team.

For himself.

Chapter 37

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

Kirishima

Kirishima stares down at the crowd gathered on the street below his agency.

He lost so many good teammates during this simulation.

Should he talk to Fatgum about some sort of extra help at his work study? Would the pro actually help him. How can he help when Kirishima doesn't even know where he went wrong?

He sighs and steps back from the window. Half his team is sick with a bug according to Recovery Girl. The other half are so tired they can barely fight and it's like every time one of them steps outside they lose someone.

They used Bondo's quirk to trap Iida so they could assassinate both of them.

Who really thinks of doing something like that?

He sighs.

He can't think like that. Midoriya is playing his role. They all need to remember that this is a simulation. They have jobs to do.

It's still the same Midoriya.

He goes to his room and sits down and works on tomorrow's patrol schedule.

Bakugou won't be happy, but with the hostility right now Kirishima just can't justify sending him out to do something. Someone could attack him or Midoriya could engineer another situation involving him.

He just can't take that risk.

Bakugou is the only one who can go toe to toe with Midoriya and Todoroki. They can't lose him to anything until those two are taken

care of.

Who the heck did Midoriya even recruit? Their costumes are so indistinguishable that the few times they did see someone they didn't know who they were looking at until they used a quirk.

But even then. If he has Monoma there's no way to know for sure that the person is in fact the person who has that quirk.

It makes breaking up into teams incredibly hard.

And he still has to talk to the press before dinner to make sure that the citizens understand what's happening.

Even Cementoss seems a little at a loss. He's helping as best he can. Offering ideas and what to do in certain situations but…it's clear he doesn't even know how to handle something on this scale.

Did Midoriya even recruit teachers?

Kirishima sighs and flips through his binder. It's pretty small. Just information about who can be recruited, time limits, and they of they capture or kill the leader then it moves on to the second in command.

They don't even know who the second in command is! How are they supposed to target them!

Well they can guess. He'd asked Iida, Uraraka and Tsu who they thought he would appoint.

They had all said Todoroki except Tsu had pointed out that while Todoroki is his friend and a skilled fighter. He doesn't have leadership skills while someone like Momo does.

So even if they take out Midoriya they still have to take out one of the recommendation students.

It's all just one big headache.

He sighs and closes the binder.

All they have to do is keep them from escaping tomorrow. Since Midoriya likely won't be able to take them all out and neither will they.

It'll just have to be a war of bought time.

He sighs and goes to get his team from training. He wants Uraraka with him. She's good at friendly and sweet. Cementoss had said having someone like her with him when he does the news announcement will be helpful.

Izuku

Izuku takes a breath as he finally makes it back into the base.

Everything is set up.

He talks to his team, minus his two teachers. Double and triple checks that they know their locations and their codes.

Checks that they know their teams.

Paladin with him and possibly Shadow Monk at location B

Bard, Mimic, and Conjuration at location C.

And everyone else at location A with Artificer on the roof.

With that settled he tells them all to clean up because they are going to make dinner tonight as a team seeing as it's their last night.

Then he goes to find his teachers.

There's one last thing he wants to talk to them about.

Chapter End Notes

Hi guys!

1. Chapters might be slowing down. I'm starting a new job in like 3 days!

2. The location names ironically have a reason behind them. If you can guess them you'll get called awesome.

3. Around chapter 39 forward there's going to be some trigger warnings. I'll post them at the front of the relevant chapters as well. This is just to tell you to keep an eye out for them.

Chapter 38

Shouta isn't expecting the knock that comes on his door but he should be.

He opens it to find Midoriya standing there.

"Rogue. What can we do for you?"

"I'm not Rogue right now. Is Mic sensei here?" He asks.

"He's napping. He's been trying to catch up on as much sleep as he can before the simulation is over and he goes back to three jobs."

"I'm awake."

"Sorry sensei!'

"Don't worry about it kid. What's wrong?" Hizashi says.

"I want you at location C with Cementoss. His patrol will take him away from Location A but he can still get there to help. So I want you to take some back up and intercept him."

"But shouldn't a heavy hitter go to location A?"

"I am not going to ask you to attack students. Nor am I going to ask you to be there when Operation London Bridge happens. I'm not going to trigger traumatic memories just to win a simulation." Midoriya says.

"Thanks." Hizashi says softly.

"Why send him with backup?" Shouta asks.

"In case any students go to help Cementoss. Like I said I am not going to make him fight students." Midoriya says.

"And me?" Shouta asks.

"Are you okay going to location B? I understand if you want to stay with Mic."

"I'm okay with going to location B."

"Okay. The two of you will also be on standby for support for location B or C. Neither of you are to go to location A. If I give the order,

prepare to get Kendo out of city so we can win unquestioningly."

"Anything else we need to know?"

"Mr. Aizawa…tomorrow at location B and A when I am taking…I am going to say a lot of things. Most of what I say are going to be coming from a bad place that never fully got closure. I…I am going to talk about a lot of things that might sound worrying. And I won't lie and say it's okay acting. But I promise I am no longer in that place." Midoriya says.

"Okay. But don't push yourself too far. I'm right there if you need to be pulled back."

"We both are. And those kids out there too." Mic says.

"Thank you Senseis!" He says and turns to head off down the hall but then stops.

"Oh! Team dinner is in a little bit, we're all going to work on it together so hurry up!" Midoriya says.

"Midoriya wait," Shouta says and kneels to be head height with the boy.

"Yes Mr. Aizawa?"

"You should be very proud of the work you have done here. I know you have been feeling bad about all this. I think it would be impossible not to."

"Thanks Mr. Aizawa. I'm focusing on the fact that this will prepare them for real villains in the future."

Shouta nods and gives him a pat on the back.

"We're going to wash our hands and then we'll head down to work on dinner."

"Alright. See you both there!" The green boy says and takes off.

Washing their hands takes mere moments and they they head down to work on dinner.

Which it turns out to be all their favorite foods.

Shouta's not even sure how he figured out all their favorite foods.

Honestly he shouldn't bother to ask. Midoriya is really good at information gathering. Like really good.

He'll have to work with him on it. To hone his talents.

Now that he sees Midoriya he's never going back to not seeing him.

They make quick work of the dinners and get the table set up and sit around it.

Before they eat Midoriya stands and taps his glass.

"Before we begin I want to thank you all for joining me in this. You could have joined the hero team. If you had I don't think I could have done half of what I came up with. And some of you gave your time and energy despite not being in the hero course whether by choice or not and I want to thank you for all of it." Midoriya says and sits down.

Kendo stands.

"And thank you Midoriya for letting us join. For reading the rules to the point you knew you could ask students from other courses. And then using that information to benefit the team. For giving those of us with less obviously useful quirks a chance to fight and work and show what we can do. For showcasing skills no one else knows about. For actually recruiting us and not just waiting for us to join you. Thank you for being our leader." Kendo says.

Shouta can hear the boy sniffle.

"And stop talking like we are going to stop talking to you after this. You're stuck with us now."

"Exactly. We're always going to be a team now," Kendo says.

"I still hate 1A but you three aren't so bad." Monoma says.

Shouta rolls his eyes but he's proud of these kids and what they have accomplished.

They should be proud too.

Dinner passes quickly after that. Morale is high and the kids are having fun sharing their favorite foods with each other.

Tomorrow is the last day.

He hopes they manage to pull this off.

The kids worked really hard for it.

Before long they are all retiring to bed.

Chapter 39

Teachers

"So that was quite an interesting day for both teams," Nedzu says.

"I have to say this year's villain team has excellent morale. Normally they are all barely functional at this point." Snipe says.

"It's because young Midoriya focused on the learning aspect of this exercise." All Might says.

"He's right. Normally they focus on winning or beating the other team and when they can't meet those goals they begins to feel useless. But here Midoriya is preventing that by making it about helping them all learn what to expect from villains." Hound Dog says.

"He's also managed to recruit more people than any other villain team before." Vlad says.

"Which is helping him keep his team well rested," Nemuri says.

"Meanwhile despite the hero team's superior numbers they are the ones being run into the ground trying to keep up."

"I will say that Kirishima is doing the best he can. He's definitely inspirational and has an earnest demeanor that is somehow keeping his team going." Nemuri says watching the boy in question stumble to bed after dealing with the press conference for the last hour.

"He's also asking Cementoss questions. Which is good. But I don't think he knows how to ask the right questions." Vlad says.

"And Ken is very by the book and literal," Nemuri points out.

"He and Kirishima are very much alike."

"I don't like that the heroes haven't once tried to figure out who might be on the villain team. They have to know Monoma. But some of them are still shocked that he's there."

"If the thought about it there's only one person who could have made their equipment." Powerloader says.

"I don't see how they could guess Shinsou. The boy is a wild card."

Vlad says thoughtfully.

"Eraserhead has already claimed the boy. You would probably have to fight Midoriya for Shinsou to be in your class." Nedzu says.

"Yes. Young Midoriya is quite fond of Young Shinsou and I can assume you would have to fight him and Aizawa." All Might says.

"Was I the only one a little surprised that Midoriya didn't have any grand schemes for today? He mostly set up for Operation Haunted House and let the other people do god knows what?"

"He needed to set up the final stage of his plan. And he couldn't have his entire team running through it. But keeping them cooped up inside would have the opposite effect. So he likely figured that he would let them cause a little chaos to help burn off energy." All Might says.

"And that team dinner was masterful. Learning everyone's favorite foods, cooking it together, eating together, it was an excellent bonding time." Nemuri says.

"As was that speech. Admitting that he needed them was a smart choice to make and showing a deep respect for everything they did for him."

"As was being mindful of his teammates trauma," Hound Dog says.

"Come on Yagi spill. What can we expect tomorrow?" Nemuri asks.

"I am allowed to tell you to remember what he said to Aizawa and keep that in mind."

"Booooo!"

"I am also supposed to ask you young Kayama to leave the room at a certain point."

"Me?"

"Yes."

"What could…oh…okay I think I know."

"Well everyone I think we should all try to get some sleep. I don't think any of us want to miss tomorrow!" Nedzu says.

The teachers all agree.

The only ones left awake are Recovery Girl, Hound Dog, and All Might.

"Yagi give us an idea of what to expect tomorrow." Hound Dog says.

"I…I don't think there will be too many injuries. Young Midoriya has this planned to minimize physical damage to the hero team. Relying only on the guns. I think the most likely to be injured are Cementoss, Bakugou or Young Midoriya himself should the plan go bad."

"And me?" Hound Dog asks.

"Aside from the general therapy session you will hold with all of them…I believe both Young Midoriya and Bakugou. As well as Kayama, Aizawa and Yamada, and perhaps even young Shinsou may need a few additional sessions with you." Yagi says.

"I'll make sure to have time available for them. In your opinion do you think they're going to be okay?"

"That's a difficult question to answer. I think Bakugou and Midoriya are going to need a bit of time. I don't know the others well enough to guess. Even Midoriya wouldn't tell me why they can't be at location A. Or fight the students."

The two nod and the three of them go to sleep.

Oblivious to what is happening on the screen.

Hitoshi

Hitoshi will admit he was not expecting a soft knocking on his door before he went to bed.

But here he is. Opening his door to God knows who…

…Midoriya?

"Midoriya what's wrong?"

"Well…I realized I warned Mr. Aizawa about what he might here tomorrow but I didn't warn you."

"Okay consider me warned shouldn't you be sleeping? You're the star of tomorrow's performance. We still have four more objectives to get."

"You're going to learn a lot about me tomorrow. Not all of it happy… and you're going to learn something about me…"

"Then tell me now. I can't get surprised if you tell me now."

"I don't want you to think any less of me…"

"I won't. I promise."

"I…I was a late bloomer. Until the day of the exam I was Quirkless. We think either the training allowed it to manifest or the danger of the exam forced it to manifest."

Hitoshi blinks. That's not what he was expecting but…

"Shit. Okay. First off I am sorry for all that shit I said at the Sports Festival…"

"You apologized for it already…"

"No. An apology without full understanding of the extent of damage can't be sincere. So I'm truly sorry for the things I said."

"You're forgiven."

"And two why don't I think tomorrow is just going to be a little scaring?"

"Bakugou wasn't exactly nice when I was Quirkless…"

"Okay so quirkist asshole on top of pompous asshole. Good to know there's two types in his spiky little head."

Midoriya giggles.

"He's better now…but…there's a lot from the past that needs to be said."

"Then say it. I'll be right beside you."

"Thanks Hitoshi."

"Anytime Broccoli boy. Anytime. And I know Kendo said thanks for all of us out there but…thank you."

"For what?"

"For giving me this chance. For letting me on your team. You took a chance on me. I barely have enough training to handle a fight. I'm not very social. I'm not a hero student…you could have just over looked me. But you not only added me your team but you also got someone hopefully kicked out of the hero course so there would be a spot for me. If I get into the hero course it'll be because of you. You didn't have to do that and for that I am grateful."

"I think that's the longest I've ever heard you speak. Shinsou, all I did was give you a stage and a captive audience. You're the one who did the missions. You're the one who played the role. You're the one that's going to do everything we planned. When you get in, I'll be because you wowed them. Not because I wanted my friend on my team."

With that the two boys bid each other good night and head to bed.

Hopefully for a good night's rest.

Chapter 40

Chapter Summary

This chapter has trigger warnings!!!!!!

ATTENTION!!!!

ATTENTION!!!

The warnings for this chapter
1. Darkness
2. Small spaces
3. Water
4. The cold
5. Hall of mirrors
6. Psychological warfare

Shitty hair is crazy if he thinks that he's going to just sit around while Deku of all people makes a mockery of the heroes everytime one or more of them leave the agency.

He refused to lose to Deku.

Never.

But these extras he's stuck with are useless! Most of them are useless.

He'll find that stupid nerd and beat him so bad he can't even begin to look down on him ever again.

He'll hunt down the entire team if he has to.

But where to start?

Deku is a shitty nerd but he is a nerd. So he'd obviously put a lot of thought into where he would hide.

Would it be somewhere abandoned?

No way. Too obvious.

Not the sewer. Too hard to get out.

But a building in use would be hard to use because of all the people

around.

Fuck.

He could start with abandoned buildings and make quick work of them. Then he can move to the sewers then…

A scream breaks him out of his concentration and he sees Cheeks taking off towards an alley.

Fuck.

Didn't she listen when shitty hair told them to call in anything?

Tch.

He runs after her, without explosions.

Not wanting to draw too much attention because fucking shitty Deku made him into public enemy number 1 with his tricks.

He comes into the alley and pauses to take in the sight before him.

Blue girl on the floor of the alley, green paint dripping down her arm as she kneels over Cheeks who has green paint dripping down her chest.

She opens her mouth to say something but stops when someone must tell her she's died.

Bakugou curses.

And clicks on his comm.

"Shitty hair. Cheeks is down in an alley near the HQ with blue girl. I'm going after the killer and use cheeks comm to track her to get her back to HQ."

He disconnects it before shitty hair can tell him not to.

"Where'd he go?" He demands and she sniffles and points to the manhole cover.

He curses and rushes forward and down into the sewer. That shitty Deku can't have gotten far. Not in a sewer.

He climbs down. The crackle of his comm immediately cuts out.

Shitty tech.

He lands and curses as water seaps into his boots.

What the fuck? These things are supposed to be waterproof. Didn't the support course fuck them up?

Stupid extras.

He makes his way deeper into the sewer. Using smaller pops of explosions to give some light to the area around him.

As he gets deeper into the tunnel the water gets deeper as well.

First his ankles. Then his knees. Then his waist.

He can't waste his explosions on this bullshit. Can't waste the sweat.

He even stops using it to light his way.

Which sucks because now he can't see.

Which is why he walks face first into something.

He grunts and feels around.

It's not a wall.

At least he doesn't think so.

It's a reinforced dam.

He sighs and explodes it easily.

"Fucking Deku!" He Shouts angrily has water pouts over him from the dam.

Soaking him.

He stomps through the dark and now the water is up to his chest.

"Deku when I get my hands on you you're dead!"

Another fucking dam.

And when he explodes that one more water drenches him.

So know he's doggy paddling.

In the dark.

At some point either the water lowers or the floor gets higher because it comes down from his neck to his chest to his waist then knees and ankles once again.

There's only one way to the door. How didn't Deku get far enough ahead for him to not even see him?

He reaches out and grabs the knob. Angrily throwing open the door.

Immediately a torrent of water pours over his head.

Drenching every inch of his body. Then he hears a him and the room begins to get colder.

Fuckin air conditioning!

He blinks away the spots that blind him due to going from darkness to light.

When it finally clears he sees himself.

Numerous copies of himself.

Or…no these are reflections.

Circus music begins to play and Bakugou wishes he could see the speakers so he could blow them to smithereens.

And he absolutely does not jump when the door slams behind him.

"Welcome Kacchan!" A familiar voice echoes through the room.

Chapter 41

Chapter Summary

Warnings
Suicidal thoughts
Suicide baiting
Explosion
Cold
Psychological warfare
Sludge Villain

Chapter Notes

Warnings
Suicidal thoughts
Suicide baiting
Explosion
Cold
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Sludge Villain

Bakugo curses as Deku's laughter fades out.

Shit.

Who thought the nerd would ever be capable of something like this.

"Come out and fight me Deku!"

"Why?"

"So I can prove I'm stronger in a fair fight!"

"Since when have you ever cared about a fight being fair Kacchan?" Comes the dead calm voice of the nerd.

"What are you talking about Deku? I don't need to cheat to show you your place."

"Ah yes you showed that over and over again when we were kids. You, the entire school, the teachers, strangers on the street. All of society was very excited to show the quirkless kid that they have no place in the world." There's a humorless chuckle.

Bakugo curses as he tries to find his way through the mirrors.

He's starting to wonder if there's even a way through it. It would be just like the nerd to make a maze with no end.

"I have to say it is nice spending time with my first friend again…I miss when we were kids."

All of a sudden the speaker crackles and he hears the giggles of familiar children.

"When we become heroes I'll be just like All Might! And you can be Sir Nighteye. My sidekick." Comes his own preschool aged voice. He remembers this conversation. They were in Deku's room before he was Deku. Playing with the nerd's action figures.

Planning for the future.

"Really Kacchan? I can be your sidekick?"

"Of course all the the best heroes have sidekicks. And I am going to be number one. Even better than All Might."

"Wow even better than All Might?"

"Duh."

"I'll help!"

"I don't need your help."

"Okay Kacchan!"

The speaker crackles again.

"We used to be so close when we were kids. Even our moms could see it. They cared about us both so much and wanted us to keep each other safe.

The speaker crackles again.

"Now boys," comes Auntie Inko's voice this time, "some kids can be mean. I want you to look out for each other."

"That means kicking the asses of anyone who messes with you. That means you Katsuki. Izuku is a kinder soul like Inko. He's gonna need you to protect him. Like a hero." Comes the hags voice.

He remembers this conversation. They were about to start preschool. Then a few months later Katsuki had gotten his quirk. And then Deku…

…Deku hadn't.

Another crackle.

"I kept my end of the deal Kacchan! I made sure that you weren't too mean or cruel to the other kids. Because you were going to be the best hero and heroes aren't supposed to be cruel or mean. And I still thought you could be a great hero! And how did you repay me Kacchan? Do you remember?"

Another crackle that seems to indicate him switching to however he is playing these voice or clips.

"Look the kanji for Izuku can all be read as Deku! Which means he really is useless."

"I'm going to kill you Shitty Nerd."

"Creepy stalker notes."

"You'll never be a hero."

All in different versions of his own voice.

"Take a swan dive off the roof of the building and pray for a quirk in your next life."

Then that fucking crackle again.

"I always used to make excuses for the way you treated me. Told myself that it wasn't your fault. That the teachers and adults in our lives never told you it was wrong. That what you were doing was wrong."

Bakugo hits another mirror and smashes it with his fist.

It cracks but still stands.

Fuck.

"But the thing is, you never did any of this in front of my mom or Auntie Mitsuki did you? We used to have weekly dinners and you ever called me useless or pathetic or anything like that at the table. Where

they could hear. Never hit me when they could see. You never hit me where you knew mom or Auntie or Uncle would see the bruises or the burns. So they excuse I came up for you is a load of shit. You knew. Because you knew not to do it in front of people who would punish you for it. Who would stop you. Who would care. You never did anything in front of them. And I definitely can't imagine you telling me to kill myself in front of them either."

There's a bit of silence for a moment and Bakugo wonders if the nerd is crying or something like that.

"I almost did it. You know? I was on the roof. On the ledge. Thinking about it. Thinking about jumping. What would you have done if I had? Surely someone would have found out what you had said to me. Your life would have been ruined. All I had to do was jump and I could have hurt you like you had hurt me for years."

"But I still couldn't do it. I still couldn't let go of the boy who said we would be heroes together. Even if I could barely see him in the body of the boy burning scars into my own."

A laugh as Bakugo punches another mirror. It won't break and this is wasting too much time. Shit.

And he's shivering. It's fucking freezing in here with the water and the air conditioning.

"Do you know where I went after that? I went towards an explosion. To watch a hero fight. Because that's the only thing that brought me any joy anymore. And what do I see? You being drowned by the Sludge Villain and the heroes doing nothing. And why? Because they didn't have the right quirks!"

Bakugo freezes.

Fucker.

How dare he bring that up.

"Quirks this and quirks that. All society cares about is quirks."

"Well it wasn't a quirk that got you free of that villain long enough to get air, was it Kacchan. It was a quirkless boy who you told kill yourself. A boy with no quirk, just a backpack."

"Tell me, if a boy with a notebook could do that. What stopped the

heroes from helping you?"

Bakugo grits his teeth.

His fists are clenches.

"Tell me…"

"SHUT UP YOU USELESS NERD." He shouts and brings his arms up. Releasing all his stored sweat.

When the smoke clears the mirrors are cracked and shattered on the ground and he can see stairs on the other end of the room from where he had come in.

He stomps over to the stairs.

He's going to kill him.

"I'll be waiting Kacchan."

"I think you know where to find me."

Chapter 42

Teachers

The teachers stare at the screens as chaos erupts across the three locations. First they had watched Nejire shoot Uraraka point blank then herself in the arm. Then while Bakugo had been running through sewers the rest of the villain team had surrounded the hero agency.

Taking out a handful of heroes as they leave for patrol. But it's not a lot. Maybe one or two.

The heroes still stand a chance.

Maybe.

Meanwhile they watch as Present Mic, with the help of two students lay an ambush for Cementoss.

For once something it's not an overwhelming victory.

They struggle.

Yeah Mic can blast his walls apart but the problem is that he can't use his quirk otherwise the rest of the students will be alerted. Apparently the hero comms had been shut down as soon as Bakugou entered the sewer.

So he's stuck going at it quirkless.

Not that it hinders him. But it just takes him a bit longer to dodge and weave and wait for an opening that Todoroki's trying to make with small bursts of fire and ice.

Eventually the opening does come.

It's at the same time Midoriya's show in the mirror room starts.

Cementoss stumbles and shouts something into his comm, asking for backup but no one can hear.

All they can hear is Midoriya rip into Bakugou.

With every word they watch the hero kids look more and more distressed and Hound Dog is already working on therapy plans for a

lot of them.

Poor Kirishima looks heartbroken.

It gives Mic the chance to shoot Cementoss between two too slow blocks.

It is a remarkable shot really. One only Snipe could have pulled off.

Nemuri starts laughing as everyone stares in shock.

"You do realize Hizashi was first in his year right? He's not just a pretty face. He has to know all about angles and deflection and all that shit. One wrong move and his quirk turns from help to hinderance to harmful. He can shoot, he's almost as good at hand to hand as Shouta, the number of vehicles he has pursuit licenses for us ridiculous." She squeals, cheering one one of her best friends. Hizashi so rarely gets to show off his skills and here Midoriya was able to give him every opportunity to show off his stealth, his brain, his acting, all of it.

They watch as Cementoss heads to the exit.

Hizashi pants for breath and claps both students on the backs.

"Alright you two. Get to location A with the others. I'm going to meet up with the two monks and effectuate the back up plan." They hear him say and the two part ways.

For a moment Nemuri wonders how much Midoriya knows about them all. He knew Hizashi was more than a scream, knew both teachers would be hurt by outright battling their students to "kill". Knows she will have trouble with whatever operation London Bridge is.

Meanwhile Nedzu is cackling into his tea.

Which worries her more than whatever amount of information Midoriya could have on all of them.

Bakugou has apparently exploded the mirrors, unaware that his entire team can hear him and Midoriya. Then heads up the stairs to the roof.

"So…what are we doing about that?" Snipe finally asks the question they had all been wondering.

"Well I am going to press upon Midoriya the helpfulness of therapy.

Clearly he's been pushing down a lot of very strong emotions. Which is not healthy for him," Hound Dog says.

"I'll back you up on that Hound Dog," Yagi says still looking at his hands.

"You okay?" Nemuri asks.

"No…I am…I am in the unique position if knowing Young Midoriya's life about as well as anyone truly can. The similarities in our quirks are not just in the physical. Both our quirks caused us to be labeled quirkless because we didn't have enough muscle mass to support it. I should have realized that there was more to Young Midoriya's and Young Bakugou's history."

"You couldn't have known Yagi…"

"Yes I could have. I could have talked with him about something outside of how to become a great hero. I could have looked at the way he was spoken to by Young Bakugou. I couldn't have known the extent of which quirkless discrimination had permeated society. Not having a quirk in my youth was more common. But there were still those bullied for it. I'm a trained hero and I should have seen the signs."

"We all should have. We've all always known Bakugou was a loose cannon. But we're all trained heroes and teachers. We should have seen that when it came to Midoriya there was more to it than just having a temper. That's on us. And it's our job to make up for it." Snipe says.

Nedzu puts down his tea cup.

"Well put Snipe. The truth is we can never undo our failure to both Midoriya and Bakugou. Our failure to support and help them. Our failures to see the problem. But we can do better now. The first step will be dealing with their former school. We cannot undo what it has done. But we can stop it from doing anything more…"

"...I think Young Midoriya would prefer that. He's always cared more about the wellbeing and safety of others over himself." Yagi says.

"Meanwhile both boys will have independent therapy sessions with Hound Dog after this simulation. With anger management classes for Bakugou and self esteem workshops for Midoriya. We will of course get both boys parents involved with this as well." Nedzu says.

Yagi nods.

"Yes I think that would be for the best." Yagi says.

"I know now that he knows Shouta is going to be more quick with repremands for behavioral issues. As well as probably separate them in class."

"I will make sure they are not paired together or against each other on as many assignments as I can." Yagi says.

The other teachers nod.

They fucked up.

But they're going to do better.

Nemuri's eyes are drawn to the roof. Where two figures. Both in their villain uniforms are standing.

And she waits with nervous anticipation as Bakugou nears the door to the roof.

She honestly doesn't know what's going to happen next.

Izuku

Izuku takes a shuddering breath as he puts down the mic for the speaker.

He didn't think saying all that would effect him as much as it actually did. He'd thought he'd gotten over it. Over the bullshit Kacchan pulled on him.

But did he? Or was he just forced to accept it because it was clear the universe kept pushing them together like some sort of cosmic joke.

Bakugou never even fucking apologized to him about any of it. Not one thing. Just leaned on the bullshit excuse of his quirk.

You can be angry and not be cruel. Anger and cruelty are not the same thing. And what Bakugou did to him…what he led others to do…it was cruel.

"Hey…" a voice says and Izuku looks up at his partner for this part of the operation.

"I'm okay. This is just hitting me harder than I thought it would. I'm realizing I may not have had as much closure as I thought I did."

"Do you need to talk about it?"

"No."

"Do you want to?"

Izuku opens his mouth to answer in the negative. But…

"It doesn't have to be with me. The school has people you can talk to. You could also talk to All Might about it. Though I don't know how equipped he'd be to handle this."

"Thanks…I might talk to someone. It might help."

"Good. I don't think anyone here will judge you harshly for it. Not after all this."

"Thanks…we should get ready. Kacchan is going to come bursting through that door any moment now and we need to be in position if we want this plan to work."

"Was this ever part of operation London Bridge?"

"Not especially. It's the lead into it. But this is for me. I know it's selfish…"

"Hey none of that. You created an amazing team. They'll understand okay Midoriya. They…we're all on your side."

Izuku nods and takes his spot on the edge of the roof as his partner takes a spot out of sight. They'll only have one chance at this. They have to be careful.

The door slams open, snapping off it's hinges as an angry blonde storms out with a shout of, "Deku!"

"What are you going to do now, Kacchan?" Izuku's voice sounds across the roof.

"I'm going to kill you, Deku!" The blonde shouts.

Chapter 43

Bakugou

"I'm going to kill you, Deku!"

As soon as the words leave his mouth he feels his body sort of droop.

What the fuck…

The person in front of him removes their cowl to reveal Deku standing there.

But he's not looking at Bakugou, he's looking behind him.

"Good work Paladin. We got him!"

A second person comes from behind some vent chutes.

They remove their cowl as they walk over.

The mind fucker from the sports festival.

Mind fucker stops in front of him, next to Izuku. There's that stupid mask from the joint training on his face and he taps it twice.

"You really should be more careful about talking to strangers Kacchan," comes Deku's voice from the mask.

Those fuckers.

Deku steps away from the edge of the roof.

"Welcome to the final act Kacchan. Only one more operation in my plan and it'll be over," Deku says and this time he knows he spoke because he can see his lips moving. But that same mask is around his neck.

That's how he did the voices over the speaker. That's why there was that crackling noise whenever he did it.

Bakugou glares. Is Deku going to kill him or make him listen to more of his rambling.

His thoughts must show in his face because Deku smiles…but it's not really a smile. It's empty of any true emotion.

"I'm not going to kill you yet Kacchan. Instead I'm going to help you!" The nerd says gleefully.

Help him? He doesn't need his help!

"I know. I know. You don't need help from a stupid Deku. But when has that ever stopped me before?" He grins.

"You always wanted to be the number one hero so I'm going to help you!"

Deku starts pacing.

"But where to start? Hmmm? I know!" He says clapping his hands together.

"To be number one you need to be the best. And you always said that the best heroes don't need help from anyone. Not other heroes, not useless Dekus, and not from hero agencies." Deku says looking up at him with a smile that he'll never admit makes him shiver.

"So step one is get rid of the hero agency so you can rebuild it in your name!" He says and pulls out a small remote trigger.

What the actual fuck.

Deku's grin is entirely too pleased when he presses the button.

BOOM

The building beneath them shakes. And Bakugou sees the the hero agency shudder and crash to the ground in a plume of smoke.

If he could he'd be gritting his teeth.

Deku taps his ear.

"Operation London Bridge begins. On our way from location B to location A." Then returns his attention to Bakugou.

"Next step. A number one hero doesn't need backup or a team. So that has to be the next thing to go. See you around Kacchan," Deku says and steps off the edge of the roof only to be caught and carried by their fucking hobo of a teacher.

Has he been up here this whole time?

Mind fucker looks at him before pulling out his own stupid scarf.

"Wait five minutes. Then you are going to remove your gauntlets carefully. Then you are going to immediately smash them into pieces. You will wait five more minutes before heading over to the agency."

Bakugou wants to glare at the bastard and knock him out of the sky as he does a definitely worse job with the scarf than the hobo.

But finally mind fucker is off the roof and Katsuki can only struggle with his own body that refuses to move. Was the bastards quirk always this strong or did Deku put him through some sort of boot camp to improve it?

It doesn't matter. He's going to light the asshole up when he gets his hands on him. After he kills Deku that is.

Five minutes later he's pulling off his gauntlets. Fuck. Shouldn't there be like a range or something that the useless asshole has to abide by. Doesn't seem right that he can control him from like several blocks away.

He smashes them into little pieces on the ground. Luckily that is enough to snap him out of whatever bullshit voodoo mind fucker put him in.

He's definitely too high up to jump and use his quirk to get down. So he has to take the stairs. He takes them as fast as he can. Vaulting some of them until he's back in the mirror room. He's no longer wet but the AC is still pumping hard enough to make him shiver as he tears at the blast proofing hastily applied over what he can tell us probably a door to the street.

He throws it open and runs toward the agency…

Only for a bucket of ice water to drop on him as he passes through the door.

Deku is so dead not even Auntie can protect him.

He takes off towards the sounds of fighting. That's were the bastards will be.

Shouta

Shouta sighs as he sees Bakugou take off towards the agency.

He really needs to work on his situational awareness. Especially when Midoriya is concerned. He turns into a search and destroy missile and ignores everything else.

Like his teacher literally around one corner of the building and Shinsou around the other corner. One would think they would assume Shinsou needs to be nearby for his mind control to hold. His reach is pretty far. But definitely not far enough to cover from the agency here.

He shakes his head.

Bakugou probably would have checked if he wasn't so focused on Midoriya.

It's one of many talks he's going to have to have with both boys.

But first.

"Shadow Monk here. Code Early Bird."

"Rogue here, thanks Shadow Monk. We're almost done here. Meet up with Bard and Open Fist Monk and prepare for back up plan Great Escape. We'll keep the comms open so you can hear if you need to implement it."

"Over and out Rogue." He sees Shinsou take off towards the Agency. He's definitely not a strong physical fighter. But he'll be invaluable to distracting Bakugou.

Shouta drops his hand and goes to meet Hizashi and Kendo. But first he takes the nearest alley to pass by a different blonde, laying in wait for the final steps of the plan, and they clap hands together before he continues on with his own mission.

He might not be able to be at the agency but his quirk can be.

Kirishima

Kirishima tries not to think about everything he heard over the comms. They had cut out after Bakugou had started up the stairs whereevee he was.

He doesn't want to think his friend could be so unmanly but he's not so naive as to not see exactly who Bakugou is.

But that's not important.

What is important is that he dodge the chunk of ice Todoroki just threw at him.

And then the baton Momo tries to hit him with.

After the explosion they had all taken to the streets and then had been swarmed before anyone knew what was happening and then it was too late.

He's the last one standing. His quirk the only thing keeping him going.

He hopes Bakugou is okay. They could really use some more fire power than just himself.

The people he was fighting fall back into the alleys. These about to pursue when he hears a noise behind him and turns.

It's Bakugou.

Kirishima drops his quirk and turns to him fully.

He opens his mouth to say something when he feels something hit the back of his head.

Bakugou

When he reaches the agency it's absolute carnage, there are "dead" extras everywhere. Or well everywhere he can see. Covered in brightly colored mockingly bright paint.

It'd be stupid if it didn't mean it was down to only him and Shitty hair.

He doesn't need his help or anyone's help. But they could have handled the extras while he beat Deku into the ground.

Shitty hair is standing there panting for breath.

Bakugou can see any extras around but that doesn't mean they aren't

there.

Shitty hair must hear him because he turns and when he sees him he seems to pause, then he drops his quirk, and opens his mouth to say something.

Then shitty hair jolts and puts a hand to the back of his head.

It comes away stained pink.

Chapter 44

His comm comes on suddenly and he can hear cowboy cosplay speaking, "hero leader has been killed. Second in command now takes the helm."

Fuck.

Deku seriously killed all of them.

How?

This isn't like the nerd is it?

He used to joke about his notebooks being creepy…but he never actually meant it…but the information in them…could it also cause destruction like this?

Shit.

And he never saw the nerd use his quirk once.

He's sure he's used it maybe once or twice but no. All this was done with the Shitty nerd's brain at the helm.

Has he always been capable of this?

"Number one heroes don't have leaders. They are the leader. Don't you agree Kacchan?" A voice says behind him and Bakugou whirls around.

He opens his mouth to deny it. But then shuts his mouth.

"Smart." Deku mutters.

"The same trick won't work on me twice," he sneers.

He has no way to know if this is the brain fucker actually talking.

Deku paces back and forth wringing his hands.

"But now you're free! Free of a team, of a leader, of an agency. Congratulations Kacchan you are now the number one hero. The only hero that matters. The only hero there is!" Deku cheers.

"I didn't ask for your help!" He snaps.

Deku stops and turns to him.

Bakugou faces him head on.

He needs to be ready.

"What makes you think you can stand against me huh? You've never been able to handle me before!" Bakugou says.

"Because it's not just me," they nerd says and he can hear the sound of foot steps and suddenly he's surrounded.

Shit.

"You think your little band of extras can handle me?" Bakugou asks, palm sparking.

Then the sparks die.

What?

He glares is Hobo around somewhere?

Or is something else happening…that fucking copy cat.

Shit.

He must have taken the hobos quirk.

"As you can see Kacchan we're ready. Every detail of this has been thought out to the last detail. We won the moment we stepped in here."

Bakugou growls.

"If you think I'm going to let you win so easily you've got another thing coming Deku!" He snarls.

He grabs some of the dust from the ground and spins in a wide circle, throwing it into all of their eyes. It might not get past the goggles but it'll catches them off guard. He uses that to throw debris at them. Knocking the extras off their feet.

With them taken care of he returns his attention to Deku.

"If we can't win then I'm at least going to take you out!" He shouts and lunges at the nerd. They hit the ground and he pulls his fist back to

punch Deku in the face.

If he hits him hard enough and faster enough he can get him out.

It's a hollow personal victory. But he won't let Deku win this alive.

Deku grunts and then suddenly Bakugou's vision is filled with green.

And he's pulled off and back.

There's someone standing there gun leveled at where his face had been.

"You're right about the same trick not working twice Kacchan," the one with a gun says, pulling back his hood to reveal Deku.

And the one he had attacked who he thought was Deku pulls his hood back to reveal the mind fucker.

"That's why we used a different trick this time," Deku says.

"Bakugou you've been killed. Hero team has been eliminated. Villain team wins." Cowboy fucker says in his comm.

No.

No.

"No! I didn't lose to that fucking Deku!" He shouts.

"Bakugou stand down. Violence outside of the simulation is unauthorized and will be severely punished!"

Bakugou can barely hear him over the pounding of his blood.

Mindfucker is putting Deku behind him.

Bakugou seethes.

He's pissed.

How dare Deku trick him.

How could they win.

How.

He's supposed to be the best.

But…He is the best down here.

And…he's alone.

At the top.

In the number one spot.

It doesn't feel as good as he thought it did.

He's aware of the villain team heading for the exit.

But he can't bring himself to care.

Is this what number one feels like? That every failure, even if they weren't yours, is your fault?

It is always this lonely?

He honestly doesn't know anymore.

Numbly he allows himself to be led out by shitty hair.

He's talking but he's not really hearing what they're saying.

His thoughts are too loud.

Chapter 45

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for notes

Izuku is still shaking with adrenaline as he's led out of the facility by Hitoshi's firm hand on his back.

His team is gathered around him as they walk. Cheering and hollering in glee.

They one.

Even with the entire assignment stacked against them they won.

Holy heck.

How?

Hitoshi gives his shoulder a squeeze as they walk into the auditorium from the first announcement.

Kids are still filing in after them.

He can see some of the hero team looking disgruntled.

Specifically Class B.

"Hey don't worry about it Rogue. Their pride is wounded. They'll be over it soon," Kendo says.

"Thanks Open hand monk."

"Any time."

She sends a look towards her classmates who immediately look sheepish and then puts a hand on his shoulder.

He can see Kirishima come in leading Kacchan who looks out of it a bit. Is he okay? That blast to the face with paint wasn't supposed to hurt him!

Before he can do anything Principal Nedzu comes out with the rest of the teachers behind him.

And Izuku notices that even the other classes and grades who were involved in the simulation are there.

Mirio waves when he notices him and so does Nejire.

Tamaki…is Tamaki.

"Good afternoon everyone. May I begin this by saying thank you all for participating. It was a long journey to get to this point and I thank you for sticking it out." He says.

"Regardless of whether you were a hero, a villain, or supporting cast you should all feel proud of yourselves." Nedzu says and seems to make eye contact with everyone.

"And now to the competitors. To our team leaders. You both made the best use of your resources and knowledge that you could. To all the competitors regardless of whether you won or lost, use this as a point of growth. Hone your investigation skills. Hone your spacial awareness. Learn from your failures here and grow from them. You will become much better heroes for it."

"And I do mean that. All of you who competed have the makings of a true hero." Izuku feels Hitoshi straighten up a little next to him and he sends the taller boy an encouraging smile.

"Some of you just need a little work. And that was the purpose of this simulation. To show where the work was most necessary. And a chance to show off skills previously undiscovered or undernurtured."

Izuku smiles.

That's what All Might had said. To use this as a chance to use skills that far exceeded his own ability to teach and mentor.

"You should all feel proud of what you accomplished in those five days and the period before. There are still some pros who can't organize patrols or lead a team." He is looking at the hero team when he says that.

"And there are ones that will just never be able to manage an undercover or infiltration mission." Nedzu looks at the villains team with what equals a smile on his face.

"Now I know most of you probably want to return to the dorms to sleep. But if you would bear with me a little longer. Would Kirishima

and Midoriya please join me on the stage. I believe you're colleagues and friends would like to hear a few words from you both."

Izuku gulps as his team gently pushes him towards the stage. He doesn't want to go up there. He'll likely be booed off the stage…or Kirishima might him him…

He manages not to stumble as an arm wraps around his shoulders.

He looks up into the smiling face of Kirishima.

"Hold your head up high Midoriya. You and your team were so manly! We didn't stand a chance!"

Does he really mean that or is he lying…

…No Kirishima is a terrible liar. He had nearly burst into tears the one time he had stolen Mina's cookies.

Izuku smiles and straightens up.

Kirishima's grin widens as they reach the stage.

"Ah it is good to see such comraderie amongst opponents. Kirishima would you like to speak first?"

"Sure."

Izuku watches the boy stand at the mic.

"First I'm not going to lie. It's a total bummer we lost. I think every losing team in history feels bummed that they lost though," Kirishima says.

There's a few laughs from the audience.

"And I am sure that there's tons of ways I could have led better. I already have a list of things I want to learn how to handle! And I know a lot of my teammates were working on lists as we went as well! Like Principal Nedzu says we should use this as a learning opportunity." Kirishima says.

"I am so proud of every single member of my team. You did everything you could and you were so manly. And I mean that whether you were one of my friends, or classmates or one of our super manly class 1B friends!" Kirishima says. Then the redhead looks at Midoriya with a grin and then our to the rest of the villain team.

"And to the villain team, you guys were so manly! Some of those plans were so clever and well put together it was like watching a movie!" He says.

Izuku feels a little tickle of pride in his chest.

"However Midoriya is not allowed to join in on prank wars. I don't think the dorm will stay standing," Kirishima says and the audience laughs.

Izuku blushes a little.

"I know playing the villain couldn't have been easy for a lot of you. But I want you to know that you're still out friends after this. Okay? This changes nothing! Except now you have bragging rights." Kirishima says, returning to stand next to Izuku.

Izuku gulps as he approaches the mic.

His stomach twists uncomfortably as he looks at his friends who were on the hero team.

What will they think of him now?

Will they even still want to be friends?

Will…

Uraraka looks up at him and grins and gives him a thumbs up.

He takes a breath.

Okay he can do this.

"First, I want to thank the teachers for not being upset with some of the tricks I pulled on them." He sheepishly looks at Midnight, Snipe, and Powerloader who all wave him off.

"Second, I would like to thank Kirishima for being such…a manly… opponent. A villain is only as great as the heroes they face," Kirishima grins at him.

"And I'm sorry for tampering with you're rule book."

Kirishima blinks, opens his mouth, closes it, blinks again and starts laughing.

Izuku doesn't know how to take that.

"Third, thank you to the rest of the hero team. None of you should feel bad about your performance…" he checks to see and no Mineta is not there good…"all of you here today should feel so proud. Just because we had plans to counter everything you did doesn't mean you were bad heroes. It was because of your heroic traits that some of our plans even worked. So don't doubt your worth as a hero." He sees a few kids seem to release breaths they had been holding. Their faces brighten up.

Good.

"Fourth, thank you to all the students who gave their time and energy to being civilians. You didn't have to do this and you certainly couldn't have enjoyed the stuff we pulled on you."

"Fifth, thank you to Eraserhead and Present Mic for joining our team. You could have said no and joined the other teachers in the observation booth. But you agreed to join our team when you didn't even have to participate. So thank you."

Mic looks like he's going to cry. From happiness or something else, Izuku doesn't know.

"And finally, I want to thank my teammates. Each one of you had the same choice as the other students. You could have joined the team with more people. The team with more friends. The more heroic team you had a million and one reasons to join the other team. But you still chose me and my team. And for that I am extremely grateful."

He looks at Hitoshi and Mei.

"And for some of you, you didn't even have to participate. You chose to because you saw something in what I was promising to do and because you're my friends so thank you. I don't think we could have won this without each and every member."

Izuku takes a deep breath.

Now the most important part.

"I won't lie. Having to fight our friends sucked."

A chuckle goes through the crowd.

"None of us ever wants to really fight our friends. But especially not when the end is considered "death." So yeah it wasn't easy to think of ways to neutralize and harm the people we care about."

The hero team is looking at him, soft looks on there faces as they glance at their own friends in the opposite team.

"And even the idea of winning tasted like ash to us. It was a built in consequence of the game. Meant to weaken us. How can we keep fighting when the end is the death of someone we care about. Whether schoolmate, classmate, or friend."

"When we planned out an ambush in an alley, or a bomb in the agency, or any of our plans really, the question that circled in our minds was, 'how can you do this to your friends.' all just to win a stupid game."

Izuku takes a breath. This is the part that's important.

"The answer to the question was this, 'what if the next person who considers this is a real villain?' and that's how we reconciled our love for our friends and classmates with the acts in this simulation. We wanted you all to be ready should you even face a villain like this once we're pros. We wanted to give you the most experience we could so that you could be safe outside when it isn't a simulation. We did our best so that we would all be prepared when a real villain does it. And like Nedzu said, some of it was to help you to be the best heroes you can be. That we know you can be."

A few people are crying.

Oops.

"Thank you."

He steps back and off the stage with Kirishima.

While Kirishima heads towards his friends, Izuku heads towards Hitoshi again. Who ruffles his hair.

"For a nervous wreck you sure did good with that speech he says and Izuku elbows him."

Izuku smiles and his eyes seek out All Might.

When their eyes lock the pro hero gives him a proud smile.

Izuku's heart leaps into his chest.

He made All Might proud!

Izuku nearly jumps out of his skin as Mr. Aizawa materializes from the shadows next to him and Hitoshi.

"Nice speech kid, you should be very proud of yourself. I know I am" he says, then turns to Hitoshi. Handing him a piece of paper.

Hitoshi looks up at him then down at the paper.

"Is this for real?"

"Yeah kid. Get your parents to sign it and bring it on Monday. You have a meeting with Nedzu and I about the special training program you'll be in for the rest of the semester to get you ready," their teacher says and vanishes back into the crowd.

"What is it?" Izuku asks. He has a pretty good idea but he wants to hear it from his friend.

"Transfer paperwork. I…I'm going to be a hero student…" Hitoshi says.

"Congratulations!" Izuku says and he's suddenly hugged so quickly that he wonders if it even happened.

"Thank you for inviting me to your team. I never would have gotten the chance to show off what I could do without you."

Izuku almost argues that it was all Hitoshi's doing but decides not to. They've had that conversation before and at least this time Hitoshi acknowledged his own skill and ability as being the reason he was given his transfer.

Izuku decides to take the minor victory.

He'll have plenty of time to work on it with Hitoshi.

A cleared throat has them all looking back towards the stage where Nedzu is back at the mic.

He looks out amongst the audience and says, "once more, thank you for joining us to watch this story unfold. And with that I officially bring this assignment to a close. Thank you!"

Chapter End Notes

Whoo hoo I finished it! Thank you all for your time and energy reading this fic. I'm working on a few updates of other fics on my page and a few new fic ideas. So we'll see what happens!

If you want to scream about this or other fics, or see what I'm working on my discord is here

https://discord.gg/hKyukCBUHH

Also I asked this a while ago so here's the answer!

Location A - Agency

Location B - Bakugou

Location C - Cementoss

This was completely accidental and I didn't notice till after I wrote it and my sleep deprived brain went, "wait a second."

ANNOUNCEMENT - NOT A NEW CHAPTER

Hello everyone,

Guess who made this part of a series!

The second story in this series will just be a collection of different deleted scenes, outtakes and extras from the series that were a left out.

Thanks 💝

End Notes

Guess who now has a discord for this fic and some of my other ones!

https://discord.gg/hKyukCBUHH

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!